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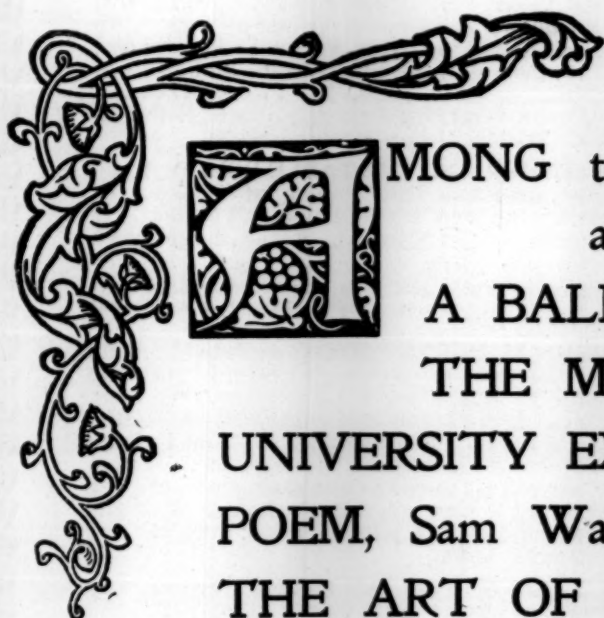
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# THE CLUB WOMAN

VOL. I.

BOSTON, MASS., DECEMBER, 1897.

No. 3.



**A**MONG the prominent features of this number  
are: ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁ ❁

A BALLAD, Harriet Prescott Spofford.

THE MISFIT GOWN, Elmer Cook Rice.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION, Mrs. John Ottley.

POEM, Sam Walter Foss.

THE ART OF SELECTION, Kate Trimble Stein.

CLUB RECIPROCITY, Harriet Walrath Kitts.

ONE WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE, Alice M. Woods.

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# THE CLUB WOMAN

VOLUME I.

BOSTON, MASS., DECEMBER, 1897.

NUMBER 3.

HELEN M. WINSLOW - - - Editor.

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### A MONTHLY JOURNAL

Devoted to the Interests of Women's Clubs.

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IT is queer how many publishers do not know the meaning of the word "copyright." The Club Woman is copyrighted, which means that no other publisher has a right to reprint articles from this magazine without giving full credit to THE CLUB WOMAN. But we are continually coming across articles and paragraphs taken bodily from our columns and reprinted as original in some other periodical. In one case a Boston paper did this and the article which was "lifted" (to put it politely) has been copied far and wide, with credit to the "lifting" publication—one which, by the way, stands for the best and highest advancement of woman!

It is unfortunate that on the heels of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe's departure for Europe a remark, imputed to her and reflecting on the sterling qualities of the new president of the New York Federation, should be set afloat by a sensational New York newspaper. In the first place we do not believe that the defeated candidate ever made the assertion ascribed by the aforesaid newspaper; and secondly, we have the authority of Mrs. Howe's daughter for denying the remark as quoted.

The editor of The Club Woman met Mrs. Florence Howe Hall on the street only a day or two since, when the latter averred that her mother not only speaks with invariable kindness of Mrs. Helmuth, but that she admires and esteems most highly the many admirable qualities of heart and brain which all club women recognize in the ex-president of Sorosis. Let the president of the Massachusetts Federation move to make the election of the New York president unanimous.

This number is sent as a sample copy to many presidents and secretaries of clubs belonging to State Federations throughout the land. It is sent with the hope that those receiving it will introduce it to their clubs. This is the only publication in the country that is devoted strictly to the work of women's clubs, and which covers the whole United States for its field. It records the work of all the State Federations and aims to bring the women of the East, the South and the West into better acquaintance with each other. Will you support it?

In every club there is usually some woman of limited income who is so situated that she cannot go out and earn money. We want to hear from all such. We pay a liberal commission on subscriptions, and the woman who is willing to work among the members of her own club and the circle of her own acquaintance may find here an easy means of adding to her pocketbook.

"It makes no difference what anybody thinks of clubs for women," writes Charles Dudley Warner in a private letter to the editor of The Clubwoman, "the women are bound to try them and to find out if there be not something in them that men have, which they ought to have."

If ever pride is justifiable it is when we look over the letters which are constantly coming to The Club Woman from the most prominent club women all over the country, recognizing the value of an organ of the club movement which can keep abreast of the issues of today.

### "THE MELLOWING OF OCCASION."

SOME men go through a forest and see no firewood." Some women go regularly to club meetings and important questions come up for discussion and see nothing for them to do. At business sessions the president calls for a full and free expression of opinion. But after one or two have spoken, all remain quiet as a country prayer-meeting. The president has not even the comfortable expedient of starting a hymn to bridge over the awful spell of silence. After a dreary wait for the testimony and experiences that nobody bears, so to speak, she puts the question to vote, and it is carried or lost by a feeble majority.

But afterward! When the meeting is adjourned and the members huddle in groups to talk matters over, then there is no lack of testimony, no inability to express an opinion. She that fears to lift her voice in public now makes it heard with no uncertain sound: she that prefers the fence to a seat on either side of the question—in open meeting—now whispers her regret that such and such action was taken: she that still obeys Paul's injunction to women in churches comes to the president saying, "I am sorry you carried—or did not carry—that motion. In my mind it was a great mistake."

And it is all in vain that the president exclaims in despair, "But why didn't you say so before? I asked for opinions, and I am sure I waited long enough for them. Why didn't you say these things when and where they would have been of some use?" The occupant of the seat on the fence and the meek and lowly follower of St. Paul and the woman who fears her own voice join with one accord in the answer: "Oh, we couldn't do that, you know. We are too conservative." O, Conservatism, what weaknesses are suffered in Thy name!

Not but what the element of conservatism is a good thing in a club. Without it the over-zealous would doubtless rush to extremes and bring the club movement into disgrace in certain quarters. But it is carried altogether too far, especially in Eastern clubs. I doubt if our Western sisters know the full terrors of the word. In their splendid courage and zeal they go ahead and do things that Eastern women only dream of and perhaps sigh for and then give up as impractical. The Western woman is not bound down by the shackles of tradition and prejudice: when she decides on a definite end to be accomplished, it is as good as done. She does not sit down to count the cost and to reckon on what this wealthy and prominent citizen would say, or that descendant of an illustrious family may think about it. She simply does it. And the world admires.

When the Eastern club woman gets a little of this independence of spirit, mixed with the wholesome, bitter truth that intelligence and culture and the best womanliness are not bounded on the west by the Alleghany mountains, nor even by the Mississippi river, nor on the south by the Potomac, the real value of the club movement will be more thoroughly demonstrated than ever before. Those of us who went to Louisville and saw and heard and met the Western and the Southern women got a mental awakening that only needs Denver to shake our eyelids wide apart. When the older members of a family suddenly realize that their younger sisters have grown up and are fully developed women with ideas and opinions—a little advanced, may be—there is an inevitable shock. But there is just as inevitably an adjustment, so that the younger girls find their place—and keep it, too.

There were women who came home from Louisville with alarm written on their eyebrow, as Samantha Allen would say. "Oh, there is bound to be a split between the Eastern and the Western women. There is sure to be a division of the Federation. We can never agree: they are too wide awake: they want too much: they are too progressive." This is rank nonsense. I am positive that the Western woman has no desire to crowd her Eastern sister to the wall. It is only that she knows that she has grown up and wants recognition from her older sister. She is here and alive, with her heart full of eagerness to be of some real use in the world. She realizes with all modesty that her heart is as big, her mind as well-developed, her advantages just as great as if she had been brought up in Boston or New York. She demands recognition, and she is right.

No. There is to be no split between the East and the West. Neither locality wants, really, to flock all alone by itself. Both need and both want the influence and the help that each can give the other. The Denver Biennial is bound to bring this about and to lead us all to better acquaintance and therefore to bind the ties of the General Federation closer than ever before. I am not presuming enough, in my ever-increasing admiration of the qualities of the clubs "out West," to say that we Easterners can give them anything: but I do know that we need something of their clearheadedness, their courage, their organizing qualities, and above all, the realization of an earnest, thorough-going purpose at bottom.

Which brings me back to my original paragraph. We have too many women who look upon the club merely as a place where they can go to see what other women will do, what they are wearing, what is the latest way of doing up the hair, or mayhap, if there will be a "scrap." They do not feel that the club is a real vital interest in their lives, nor that it entails upon members any responsibility, whatever. And if there be women who take a more serious view of things—so serious, in fact, as to lead them to stand on their feet and fight a wordy war for their convictions, then these fence-sitters have a lovely time. And afterward they go home and tell their husbands all about the "scrap" between Mrs. A. and Mrs. B., and he spreads abroad the idea that women's clubs are only places where the women go to quarrel and backbite each other.

In this connection, I am going to reprint the pledge which the members of Sorosis take upon admission. There is but one Sorosis. The others all wear as a prefix, the name of the town where it is located. This is the Sorosis organized in New York in 1868, the inspiration of so many thousands of clubs all over the land. Would that every club had such a pledge—and required its members to keep it!

"I give my name to Sorosis to keep sacredly.

"I give my interest to Sorosis to make it worthy of support.

"I pledge myself to sustain the members of Sorosis in all worthy efforts, and I will defend them against calumny.

"I will avoid doing anything that can injure the reputation of Sorosis.

"I will be a member of Sorosis as long as I can be useful to and receive benefit from the Association."

To which The Club Woman says a hearty "Amen."



## THE WOMAN AT BRYAN STATION.

BY HARRIET PRESCOTT SPOFFORD.

**W**ITHIN the dark and bloody ground  
More than three-score bold pioneers  
The little trembling, stumbling feet.  
Of ringing war-whoops in their ears.

Catching the king's-arm had they fled  
From clearings green with tender wheat,  
Pushing before with hurried tread  
The block-house sheltered, with the sound

And there were girls as young and fair  
As flowers, and laughing babies too,  
And old men on whose silver hair  
The light of heaven was half in view.

And under low-hung boughs afar  
One sped to bring relief; and then,  
When fell the guarding bolt and bar,  
Women and men had breathed again.

Round them for days in war-paint clung  
Three hundred braves, with curdling screams,  
Flourished their tomahawks, and flung  
Their fire-brands at the oaken beams.

Hot was the work; a flash; a yell;  
Quick! the reloading; and one more!  
And every time a fighter fell  
The din was louder than before.

Then hush, and not a foeman nigh,—  
Till, far from subtle ambush sped,  
A shower of arrows sung on high  
And fell round the adventurous head.

And while all slumbered, save who kept  
The guard along the dreadful night,  
The scalping-knife in flashes leapt  
Through dreams upon the shuddering sigh

And some were moaning, some were mad,  
When a new foe as fierce crept up—  
Powder and ball and bread they had,  
But water—not a single cup!

Parched were the lips, a fevered gleam  
Lit every eye, each throat was fire,  
And, not a gun-shot off, the stream  
Sparkled o'er sand and under brier.

Where the green boughs above it bent  
How clear, how deep the silver pool,  
And where in frolic sun it went  
How sweet, how glittering, how cool!

"Come!" cried the men. "It is but death.  
We will go out and water bring,  
And should we fall, no dying breath  
Beside this thirst were anything!"

"Nay," said the women. "Death it is,  
And, should you fall, the fate we meet  
So terrible, indeed, that this,  
This death by thirst were something sweet!

"You men who never missed a mark!  
Cover us with your guns, and we  
Will go. And should the red-skin—Hark!  
His shot for her, and yours for me!"

Then thirty women, still and pale  
As breathing marble, calmly stepped  
Out from the block-house, down the trail  
Where the bright brook its bubbles swept.

And men as grim and resolute  
As fate, their covering muskets held,  
Breathless, and all the woods were mute  
And lone as in primeval eld.

Above the brook the women bent,  
Their jugs, their jars, their buckets dipped,  
In the broad bay. Then back they went,  
The doors they closed, the bolts they slipped,

And not a savage yell was raised,  
No arrowy shaft flew threatening death,—  
At that heroic hour amazed  
The very forest held its breath!

None knew if that wild blood were tamed,  
By some rude sympathy enthralled,  
Or, by sublime resistance shamed,  
Whether it simply were appalled.

But vanished was the red man's sway  
Where men were of such mothers born,  
Into green depths he slipped away  
As the dew melts before the morn.

I believe women's clubs to be one of the greatest blessings of this century. In them we learn independence of speech and action, as well as how such organizations should be conducted. We should all be able to express our thoughts in public in a concise, business-like manner, and in no place can we receive better discipline in this respect than at a club. I say, let the women's clubs continue, multiply and prosper, and perhaps some doll-like creatures may be brought to attend, and thereby learn to appreciate, the true value of womanhood. If not, we must leave them to their paint and powder, press onward ourselves and look for a solution of the question in the natural law of progress which is usually fulfilled by the survival of the fittest.—Mrs. A. P. Jarvis, Fullerton, Neb.

To any woman a well-conducted club is a great gain, whether art, literature, missions, history, hygiene or current events are considered. New ideas are obtained, unsuspected talent is developed; there is a broadening out, a most desirable mental improvement. To be able to think intelligently, and to give voice to opinions, does not make a woman less a companion for husband and children.

The question is not, "Shall we tolerate the woman's club?" but, "How make the best of it?" It has come to stay.

## THE MISFIT GOWN.

BY ELMER COOK RICE.

The Club Woman feels herself highly complimented in obtaining permission to copy from the "Black Cat" of May, 1896, the following story of club-life. All the stories in the "Black Cat" are copyrighted by the Short Story Publishing Company and are to be reprinted in book form at an early date; but when the Club Woman asked for the privilege of reprinting the "Misfit Gown," permission was graciously given by the manager, Mr. H. D. Umbstaetter, although he has several times resorted to the courts for redress against infringement of the copyright law. Moral: It is better to ask for a thing than to steal it.

**H**ONOR and local fame went with the presidency of the Helping Hand Charitable Society, an organization of women from all the churches in the town of Brinkdale.

The by-laws required the president to be unmarried and under thirty years of age. According to custom, she led the grand march, with the chairman of the selectmen, at the annual ball of the society, in the town hall, the greatest event of the town's social season. She was an important assistant to the overseers of the poor. She was accepted generally as the leader of the town's jolliest set; no tea, church, or coming-out party was considered successful without her presence. The Brinkdale Vox Populi reported her movements faithfully in its columns. And more than all was the office coveted because the maiden who held it was certain to be married within a twelve-month after the expiration of her term of service. This rule had held good in the cases of every one of the eleven incumbents of this position, and had come to be looked upon as law.

The society had no other officer. The president was an autocrat, and must needs possess the highest executive ability. More than that, the position was one that called for beauty, graciousness, and tact—the principal elements of feminine popularity. All of which goes to show why the eligible young bachelors of Brinkdale had come to consider the hand in marriage of the president of the Helping Hand Charitable Society so valuable a prize.

It is hardly necessary to state that there was lively rivalry for the office.

The society was composed of nearly six hundred women, but only those between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five, married or unmarried, were allowed to vote. The canvass usually began at Thanksgiving. Election day was December 31, the date of the annual meeting, and on the night of January 1 the newly elected president was installed with elaborate exercises, followed by a reception and dance. The patronage of the office did not amount to much—only the appointment of half a dozen committees. Hence a candidate could not promise favors for support, and was obliged to run on her popularity and general fitness.

Last November two young ladies came forth—one boldly, the other almost shrinkingly, as if she heard the voice of the people—and announced that they were candidates for the presidential chair.

One was Isabelle Cooper, twenty-two years old, handsome, of dark complexion and lithe figure, educated in the local high school and finished at Miss Potterlea's private seminary. Mr. Cooper was a wealthy leather jobber. Her mother was a delightful entertainer in an imposing, newly built, eighty-thousand-dollar house on Michigan Hillside, and the daughter had already proved her mettle at Brinkdale society affairs. Miss Cooper's name had been on the membership roll of the society for five years, but she had been an active member only sixteen months, her activity dating from the time of graduation from the seminary.

The other candidate was Constance James, twenty-one years old, whose aggressive work as a member of several of the society's committees had made her name prominent since graduation from the high school at the age of eighteen. She was a blonde of average height, with grayish blue eyes, waving golden hair, and a happy, intelligent face. Although forbidden by her father's straightened means from entertaining on a lavish scale, Miss James had made her modest home facing the town square a centre of unaffected hospitality, and had many devoted friends.

Of course this double announcement was the signal for a spirited campaign. A rallying committee of five, including two young married women, was immediately organized to "boom" Miss Cooper. At the same time Miss James's interests were taken in hand by three active supporters; one, her chum, Rose Goodnow, the star of the Brinkdale dramatic club and the daughter of a well-known judge; the others, former classmates who knew her intimately and were with her, heart and soul.

On the evening of December 10, these three met with Miss James at her home, and discussed the situation at length. All agreed that the hardest kind of work was necessary to insure success.

"Isabelle now has more than a majority, I'm sure," announced Rose, after a careful examination of two columns of figures. "President Salsbury is on her side, and the president's influence counts for a good deal with the younger members. The two are neighbors, you know."

"Yes," said Mary Belknap, "and I am very sure that all the ten new members admitted at the last monthly meeting are going to vote for her. Her cousin looked them up and got them admitted for no purpose but to vote for Isabelle."

"Oh, how mean!" exclaimed Hope Wright, the fourth member of the conference. "I think if the society knew that, Miss Cooper never could be elected."

"Never mind," counselled the candidate. "The odds are against us, but we won't play cry-baby and give up before we are beaten."

The Cooper boomers met Christmas eve at their candidate's home on Michigan Hillside, where the usual festivities were further enlivened by loud rejoicings over the anticipated victory.

"Isabelle," finally exclaimed Mrs. Smith, "you've got a lead-pipe cinch!"

"A what?" chorused the rest in mingled amazement and alarm.

"A lead-pipe cinch," repeated Mrs. Smith. "I don't know what that is, but my husband said he had it when he received seven-eighths of all the votes cast for county clerk."

"That's too good to be true," commented Miss Cooper. "I've gone over the list of all the voting members and can figure only a bare majority. But I feel pretty sure of winning. You've no idea of the troops of friends who come here and tell me they are sure I shall be elected."

"Of course you will be," encouraged Mary Yeaton. "I've figured it all out, and you are certain to get nearly two-thirds of all the votes on the first ballot."

"Oh, do you really think so?" queried Miss Cooper. Then, without waiting for a reply, she continued mysteriously: "Well, since you feel so certain, I've the greatest mind—yes—I believe I will—let you into a secret. Only you must promise on your honor not to breathe it to a soul."

Upon receiving the assurance that wild horses would not drag from them a syllable of the proposed disclosure, Miss Cooper proceeded breathlessly:—

"Girls, I've got a new gown—from Bluefern—the New York tailor, on purpose for the installation! I've been saving my pin money for it six months, and it just came this afternoon."



"A Bluefern gown! Oh, you lucky girl! Where is it? Do let us see it!" came in excited chorus, followed by a general stampede in the direction of Miss Cooper's room. Here, the Bluefern gown, a magnificent creation of white striped silk powdered with Dresden figures and trimmed with Mechlin lace, elicited such ecstatic comments that Miss Cooper finally consented to be invested in the all-important gown by three volunteer dressers. When the last button was buttoned, and the last fold laid in place, the delight of the spectators again bubbled out in admiring ejaculations. One exclaimed over the exquisite fabric, another over the bouffant sleeves, while others still were specially impressed by the graceful hang of the voluminous skirt, measuring nearly twelve yards around, or the strikingly original arrangement of lace upon the corsage. But it was the fit of the bodice that challenged the almost worshipful admiration of every person present, and convinced all that the figure of Fate had indeed singled out their candidate for success.

"You'll make the most stunning president the club has ever seen," was Miss Yeaton's parting salute as the party broke up, after a final exchange of congratulations.

And as the little party trooped down Michigan Hillside together, they agreed that the gown must have cost at least five hundred dollars and that it was cheap at that.

The meeting of the James forces on the day following Christmas was a gloomy one. Even Hope Wright, the most sanguine, was obliged to admit that defeat seemed inevitable. "I went around on my bicycle to twenty-two of the doubtful members," said she, "and found ten of them pledged to Cooper. I won over three, and made sure of the rest of the twenty-two. Our opponents have canvassed the society thoroughly, and unless we take extraordinary measures we are sure to be defeated."

Profound silence followed this depressing intelligence. Finally, Mary Belknap, whose father was an ex-member of the State legislature, leaned towards the others, and said impressively:—

"Girls, there is just one chance, and that is to break the forces of the Cooperites by nominating a dark horse."

"A dark horse?" murmured the others, vaguely.

"Yes, a third candidate—a girl from their ranks who will cut into Isabelle's votes at first, and make several ballots necessary. I don't think Miss Cooper's name will wear successfully through a long meeting. We shall remain firm all the time, of course, and before long there will be a stampede in our favor."

"That's a capital ideal!" was Miss James's verdict. "What a politician you are! But who shall be the third candidate?"

"Sally Salstonstall," replied Mary. "She's lukewarm in her support of Miss Cooper, and she simply couldn't decline the nomination. You see, she knows it's the stepping stone to matrimony, and she's just crazy to get married."

"Now let's see; of course none of us can nominate her. Oh!" after a moment's silence, "I know—we'll get Carrie Holbrook to do it. But remember—not a word of this to another soul. Now you wait while I go over to Carrie's and instruct her."

Twenty minutes later Miss Belknap burst into the room, with consternation written in every line of her face.

"Girls! what do you think!" she gasped. "Our flag is at half mast. We're licked, to speak plainly. That Isabelle Cooper has sent Christmas boxes of candy to the small children of nearly every family in the society, with New Year's cards bearing the inscription, 'Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.' That will make her solid with everybody."

The four sat dumb with amazement. Shrewd workers they certainly were not, in comparison with the Napoleonic managers of the rival campaign. At length Rose Goodnow broke the de-

pressing silence:—

"Is Carrie Holbrook with us?"

"Yes," replied Miss Belknap.

"Then we'll carry through that plan; but it is not enough. Now I have a scheme. Just listen."

Four heads moved close together while the speaker, lowering her voice to a mysterious whisper, outlined a plan, the audacity of which caused her hearers to open wide their eyes, while their cheeks grew red with suppressed excitement.

"And you dare to do it?" one asked, when she finished.

"I do," replied Rose. "It's our last chance."

The Cooperites spent the afternoon of December 30 in congratulating their candidate and each other over a victory, that already seemed as good as won. The gift of boxes of candy to the children had been a master stroke. Indeed, a final count of her forces proved so satisfactory that Miss Cooper called up the town florist by telephone and ordered a bouquet of American Beauty roses delivered at her home on the morning of New Year's Day. It would furnish the final touch, she told herself, to her Bluefern installation gown.

That evening, at eight o'clock, a score of dark forms struggled up Michigan Hillside through the wind and sleet to a spot less than a hundred yards from the Cooper home. As the last figure joined the little group the chief conspirator whispered: "Don't be frightened. All you need do is to steal up quietly on the lawn opposite the drawing-room windows, prepared to be eye-witnesses of what takes place. I will attend to the rest."

After a few moments of breathless expectation, a woman with ragged skirts, black shawl, muddy shoes, old-fashioned bonnet, and hair rumped over her forehead, was seen to totter up the Cooper steps and ring the bell. There were dark circles under her eyes. Her hands trembled with cold and fatigue.

A maid in white apron and cap answered the bell.

"Is Miss Isabelle Cooper at home?" quavered the wretched object. "I want very much to see her."

The maid hesitated. Finally she said, grudgingly: "Yes, she's in, but I don't know as she can see you. Just step into the hall while I find out."

A few moments later one of the watchers outside, looking through the long windows at the big entrance hall, exclaimed: "Here she comes, girls; now watch for all you're worth."

The Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Helping Hand Society, held the following evening in the vestry of the Congregational Church, was the largest in the history of the organization. From Brinkdale, and Brinkdale Centre, and South Brinkdale—from fashionable Michigan Hillside, and from the less pretentious neighborhoods, the voters had flocked by twos, and tens, and dozens. Overburdened matrons, who, although nominally members, had for several years confined their charity to their own homes, now found themselves suddenly dragged to the scene of conflict, while no less than three semi-invalid voters were also driven thither in hacks provided by enthusiastic electioneers. Half an hour after the president's gavel had called the meeting to order, the church vestry was crowded with an assembly of agitated womankind, ranged according to their political preference on the right and left of the room, and eyeing each other like members of hostile camps. The air was simply electric with suppressed excitement. Routine business had been rushed through at telegraphic speed, and the names of Miss Isabelle Cooper and Miss Constance James had been placed before the meeting in the briefest possible nominating speeches. It was at this point, when the election seemed to have resolved itself into a tug of war between two opposing forces, that the unexpected happened. Miss Carrie Holbrook

arose, and in a most eloquent speech nominated Miss Sally Saltonstall as a third candidate for the presidency, much to the surprise of that young lady, who half rose in her chair as straggling applause broke out at the mention of her name, and then sank back again, blushing violently.

The Cooperites stared at each other in bewilderment. What was the meaning of this new move? Before they had become articulate in their surprise, a motion was put by one of the James faction that they proceed to ballot, and as there was no excuse for delay, the motion was carried, and tellers were appointed to collect the votes. Amid profound silence the three tellers made their rounds, and, emptying their boxes on a table beside the president's desk, proceeded to a count. Fifteen minutes later, after a series of comparisons and recounts, during which the faces of the tellers were eagerly scanned by every woman in the room for some tell-tale change of expression, the result was made known as follows:

Whole number of votes cast . . . . .	203
Necessary to a choice . . . . .	102
Isabelle Cooper . . . . .	95
Constance James . . . . .	80
Sally Saltonstall . . . . .	27

"There being no majority for any one candidate, the house will proceed to another ballot," said the president.

The Cooper forces were elated. Only seven more votes and their candidate would be elected! But why does not Sally Saltonstall decline the nomination in favor of Isabelle Cooper? With her votes they can win by a wide margin.

During the balloting a deputation from the Cooper workers swarmed around Miss Saltonstall, pleading that she withdraw her name. But Miss Saltonstall was not to be so easily disposed of. Already a representative of the James forces had convinced her that she held the key of the situation, and at their earnest request she decided to remain in the contest for one more ballot.

For the first time a tremor of misgiving ran through the Cooper forces. While the tellers were counting the votes for the second ballot, they exchanged anxious whispers, and, as the chief teller rose to announce the result, one of the most emotional members of the faction giggled hysterically. Meanwhile the James forces waited, with a stolidity born of a desperate cause, for the report from the second ballot. It was as follows:

Whole number of votes cast . . . . .	201
Necessary to a choice . . . . .	101
Isabelle Cooper . . . . .	98
Constance James . . . . .	83
Sally Saltonstall . . . . .	20

And again there was no choice.

At this point the seesaw of politics tipped to a new angle. Miss Sally Saltonstall, the dark horse candidate, rose slowly from her chair, and while a ripple of excitement ran through the assembly, in a voice tremulous with feeling, extended her thanks to her friends for the high honor they had conferred upon her. Then, after modestly insisting that the honor was unsought, and more than she was worthy of, Miss Saltonstall concluded:

"Fellow-members, I withdraw my name, and ask all my friends—to whom, in conclusion, I again express my thanks for their fidelity and their unswerving support—to vote for Miss Isabelle Cooper."

There was a tremendous outburst of enthusiasm at the end of Miss Saltonstall's remarks. Miss Cooper smilingly acknowledged the congratulations of a score of friends. The James faction sat silent and pale, but with dogged determination in their faces. Miss Goodnow alone wore a smile that was childlike and bland. Yet even those who were in the secret hardly dared hope that one of her mammoth sleeves concealed the winning card. But all felt that now, if ever, was the time for this de-

scendant of a long line of eminent jurists to prove her mettle.

But Miss Goodnow still remained silent, while, amid a suspense so keen that the air seemed fairly snapping with electricity, it was moved and seconded that the meeting proceed to a third ballot. Suddenly, just as the president was about to put the question, there rang out a clear, low voice:

"Miss President!"

It was Rose Goodnow. She stood at the very back of the vestry, cool and self-possessed, in the midst of the turmoil that her sudden move had created. As she waited for the president's recognition, a whisper that the girl was going to withdraw the name of her candidate flew from ear to ear. The James faction exchanged stupefied glances, and the Cooper workers waxed more and more triumphant.

After a moment's pause the president said, "Miss Goodnow has the floor."

"Miss President," continued the speaker, "I rise to a question of privilege."

The president hurriedly consulted her Cushing's Manual of Parliamentary Practice, a slight blush rising to her cheeks as some one tittered. Miss Goodnow scowled impressively.

After a period of nerve-racking silence, President Salsbury commanded:

"State the privilege."

"I wish to ask permission of one of the candidates to withdraw her name from the meeting."

"Does any member object?" asked the president.

Profound silence greeted the question. The Cooperites, eager for the withdrawal of Miss James's name, certainly had no inclination to object, and the rest were too much bewildered to interpose.

"The chair hears no objection," said the president. "Miss Goodnow has the floor."

The young lady's manner changed. She smiled significantly, and, with head erect, walked rapidly down the aisle and faced the meeting. As she paused for a moment and swept the assembly with an assured glance, the Cooperites sat bolt upright or leaned forward eagerly, even apprehensively. Certainly the alert manner and clean-cut face of the girl betrayed no sign of weakening; instead, from her dark eyes gleamed a fire inherited from a double line of celebrated lawyers and jurists—a fire so intense that her audience waited breathlessly, as for the peal of thunder sure to follow upon a flash of lightning. But except for that light in her eyes Miss Goodnow was, to all appearances, perfectly calm.

"Follow-members of the Helping Hand Charitable Society," she began, in a low, impressive voice, rendered all the more impressive by the solemn hush that had now spread over the gathering, "I do not rise to-night to champion the cause of any one; neither do I address you in the interests of any clique or party."

Here she paused for a moment, as if to see the effect of her words, and a shrill whisper of amazement ran around the room, ceasing, however, with her next words.

"No, fellow-members, the matter which I am about to lay before you is one which involves the welfare of our entire society, a matter which demands such consideration as rises far above the plane of mere personal feelings and prejudices.

"But first," drawing a tablet from her pocket, "let me call your attention to our by-laws. I quote from Page 3, Section I, 'Name and Object':

"The name of this society shall be the Helping Hand Charitable Society.

"Its object shall be, as its name implies, to give a helping hand to all persons in distress, whatever their race, religion or condition.

"Its motto shall be the Golden Rule."



At this a few significant glances were turned upon Miss Cooper, who blushed furiously at the remembrance of the boxes of candy and New Year's cards.

The speaker went on, slowly and impressively.

"Now, fellow-members, I ask you to picture in your mind's eye a certain magnificent home on Michigan Hillside, where the daughter of the family lives, surrounded by every luxury that wealth can give. (Subdued murmurs.) Last night, in the midst of the storm and sleet, there appeared at the door of this mansion a miserable, wretched-appearing woman, who related in a voice choked with sobs, that her husband, a hard-working carpenter, had been laid up for a month with a broken leg. Their little savings were gone, and she was compelled to take in washing to provide the bare necessities of life for eight small children. And, in addition to these troubles, the poor woman's appearance indicated that she had but a few years on this earth, that consumption was slowly eating her life away."

A thrill of sympathy ran through the assembly. Miss Cooper forced a weak smile of derision. But the orator, borne swiftly along by the current of her own eloquence, continued unheedingly:

"And how did the young lady of the house show her charity to the sufferer? Did she say, 'Rest here, while I get you food and warm clothes for your chilled body?' Did she provide for that suffering family?"

"No, fellow-members; I happen to know that instead, that unhappy woman was put through a course of questions such as these: 'What church do you attend? Have you ever applied to the town for aid? Does your husband ever use strong drink? Do your children go to Sabbath school?' And that, after having been submitted to this painful and humiliating ordeal, this poor sufferer was dismissed with a promise that her case should be investigated next week!"

"And what, fellow-members—what do you suppose was the final reason given by that young lady for refusing aid to the suffering? Nothing more nor less than the plea that she had used all the means at her disposal in sending Christmas boxes to two hundred children of this city."

"Yes," proceeded Miss Goodnow, unmoved by the sudden tumult aroused by her last words, "yes, it was with such words as these that she showed the miserable creature to the door and let her go out into the night and the storm, without money, without food, without even so much as a pitying word."

By this time the excitement was at white heat. Muffled sobs rose from every corner, and fans and smelling-bottles had been pressed into service all over the vestry. Indeed, so severe was the nervous strain that three overwrought women were supported, half fainting, to the door, while Isabelle Cooper sank in a semi-swoon against the shoulder of her chief lieutenant.

But still that relentless voice continued: "Fellow-members—dear friends—as you know, long experience has shown that the highest office in this club is a stepping-stone to early matrimony. Upon our choice of president hangs more than the development of the Helping Hand's purposes, high and noble though they be; yes, upon our choice, stamping as it does the successful candidate as a representative of the highest and noblest type of woman, depends the future of a home, the destinies of unborn generations."

"Now, fellow-members," concluded the orator solemnly, "having heard so much, you know, without any words of mine, the name of the young lady on Michigan Hillside. What you do not know, however, is this,—*I was the old woman!*"

For just a second a dazed stillness, like that following the explosion of a bomb, held the entire assembly.

Then, as from a score of members, burst the cry, "That's so; we saw her," the room suddenly resounded with loud sobs and hysterical laughter. Some overwrought members of the

James force literally fell upon each other's necks, while the Cooperites, with drawn faces, crowded together in the feverish desperation of those who see the destruction of their last hope.

As for Isabelle Cooper, she started bolt upright, restored to consciousness, as if by magic, by this master-stroke of the enemy, and sat staring in rigid expectancy at the relentless orator.

But Miss Goodnow, having marked the effect of her final shot, had no mind to weaken its effect. "Fellow-members," she said briefly, "on second thought, I will not ask permission of a certain candidate to withdraw her name. Rather, I leave it to your sense of duty and right to see that to-night the Helping Hand Charitable Society remains loyal to its high and noble principles."

"Miss President, I move that we proceed to a third ballot."

Hardly had Miss Goodnow taken her seat, when the able lieutenant of the Cooper party was on her feet.

"Miss President and fellow-members," she began, "since the honor of our candidate has been questioned, I hereby withdraw the name of Miss Cooper, and, as the hour is late, move that, to facilitate proceedings, the chief teller be instructed to cast one ballot for Miss Constance James."

Upon which, amid sobs and laughter and cries of "What's the matter with Miss James? She's all right," the motion was seconded and carried by a thundering and unanimous "Aye."

And, as the result of the third ballot, Miss Constance James was formally declared the president of the Helping Hand Charitable Society.

\* \* \* \*

A few days later an expressman called at the Michigan Hillside mansion and took away a huge box, inside of which lay a mass of silk and lace, accompanied by the following note:

"Messrs. Bluefern & Co., Fifth Avenue, New York."

"Gentlemen:—My daughter Isabelle complains that the inclosed costume does not fit. She will call and see you in a week or so, and make some mutually agreeable arrangement with regard to a cold-weather garment."

"Very truly yours,

"JAMES W. COOPER."

"Brinkdale, January 7."

THESE are the days when the lecturer putteth forth her leaflets, until they strew the land thicker than the leaves that fall in the November woods. The mail of every club president and secretary is burdened with them, and woe to the woman who sitteth in high places, for to her cometh all who desire to speak before women's clubs, demanding to be shown the way to get there. In the seclusion of home such officers and other women have been known to indulge in mild anathemas, and to wish a law might be passed to limit the supply to the demand. But there is something to be said on the other side. The lecturer has troubles of her own; and in the next issue we shall print a few grievances of the lecturer.

#### NOT WOMAN'S WORK.

Many amusing stories have been told, from time to time, of mistakes made by typographical errors. The following occurred in the "make-up" of a Boston paper, which had a review of the Christian Endeavor Birthday Book, at the bottom of a column, ending as follows: "This little book contains a verse of Scripture and appropriate reading for every day in the year. The selections are sometimes prose and sometimes poetry, and are comforting, inspiring, and practical. A book of this sort should prove a daily monitor to those who read it." Directly under it, separated only by a line was "Hub Punch is sold by the leading grocers."

## UNIVERSITY EXTENSION ON WOMEN'S CLUBS.

BY MRS. JOHN OTTLEY.

The following paper was read at the Nashville Council meeting.

(Concluded from November.)

Much of the progress of University Extension in America has been due to its eager acceptance and warm endorsement by Women's Clubs.

We gave a course of six lectures in Georgia last year, with a circuit in which five towns, Atlanta, Macon, Rome, Barnesville, Ga., and Knoxville, Tenn., participated, and in each instance the course was arranged and managed by women. But, now, since we have seen how we can use this system in the indoor life of our clubs, let us see how we can apply it to the other side of the club's activity—its public work, which involves interest in all broad general questions.

Here the work of the individual club merges itself into that of the State, or the General Federation. It is to these larger bodies that I shall address the answer to this question which I desire earnestly to press upon this meeting. I hope to obtain for the suggestion the careful consideration of every woman present, and I believe this consideration will take actual form in definite steps towards the attainment of the ideal in each State here represented.

I think that I am right in saying that the attempt, outlined above, to "diffuse knowledge for social betterment," is not only the aim of America at large but of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The General Federation, and many State Federations have manifested this by choosing the subject of education as the special field for their study and action.

Wise conclusions along such broad lines can only be gained by a careful survey of the entire field of phenomena, and the only modifications which will prove of value in the educational life of our nation are those based upon full observation and closely drawn deductions. To this end the Federation is devoting its leisure and ability. The paramount demand of our educational problem as it now lies before us is unquestionably a greater unity in systems and the thought which inspires them. Education as we now have it is a patchwork.

Changing our metaphor, we may say that the child's progress through kindergarten, primary and secondary school, college and university, is accomplished by a series of acrobatic leaps. The whole strength of the educational movement today is towards a more unified education. We must, however, unify the parts before we can unify the whole.

We have long recognized that our elementary teaching must be all a part of a system, and under the State's cognizance and control, and the strength of our public school system lies in this recognition.

Now, while we are unifying below, shall we not unify above?

Why should not this same unity and State authority be applied to all institutions, means and methods for higher education in each State? Towards this end, no means can be used so effectually as University Extension in its broad sense. The Woman's Club of America, in its effort to help the nation's struggle for a greater democratization of life and thoughts, could make no more valuable contribution to the subject than by drawing attention to, and assisting in securing, legislatively, for each State in the Union, a practical use of this method for systematizing the State's higher educational activities.

You may say: "This sounds pleasing, but vague. How is this to be done?"

It would not be within the province of this little paper to outline details for so mighty an undertaking.

That the thought is not a chimerical one, however, we have only to look to the great Empire State to be assured. New York has at its capital a governing, not a teaching, university, which fulfils this purpose. Her Legislature, by its appropriation of \$10,000 per year for actual University Extension work (in the form of lectures, apparatus, books, literature, etc.), was the first State or government to officially recognize, by name, the claims of the method. But it seems to me that the whole system of its university itself has always practised University Extension.

Hear this: "The object of the university is to encourage and promote education in advance of the common elementary branches. Its field includes not only the work of academies, colleges, universities, professional and technical schools, but also educational work connected with libraries, museums, extension courses and similar agencies."

The university is a supervisory and administrative, not a teaching, institution. It is a state department and at the same time a federation of more than 500 institutions of higher and secondary education.

Powers and Duties. Besides many other important powers and duties, the regents have power to incorporate and to alter or revoke the charters of universities, colleges, academies, libraries, museums, or other educational institutions; to distribute to them funds granted by the State for their use; to inspect their workings, and require annual reports under oath of their presiding officers; to establish examinations as to attainments in learning, and confer on successful candidates suitable certificates, diplomas and degrees, and to confer honorary degrees.

They apportion annually an academic fund of \$106,000 for buying books and apparatus for academies and high schools, raising an equal amount for the same purpose, and the remainder on the basis of attendance and the results of instruction as shown by satisfactory completion of prescribed courses for which the regents' examinations afford the official test. They also expend annually \$25,000 for the benefit of free public libraries.

Its extension department is made up of lecturers from the various universities under its supervision, and by the aid of the State library it does a great Library Extension work.

You see, at once, how thoroughly and beautifully this plan carries out the idea of the Extension of the University. The words mean to bring to the many, the masses, the higher training and authority of the great world-recognized university or seat of learning.

Those of us who have been admitted to the system of counting credits for a degree at any of the great universities, know how few of the institutions of learning throughout the country are "recognized." The work done in most colleges and universities simply does not count at all, and yet the applicant may well have done work of a grade to be valuable. This central governing university, with its constant examinations by its own examiners, conducted all over the State simultaneously, puts all work into official circles at once.

By this means a boy or girl need not travel great distances to secure a recognized grade of education.

The same train of thought suggests that a State library is not a State library so long as it consists of a collection of books shut up in the four walls of one building in some one city in the State. If it is the State's library, the State's citizens must have the use of it, and so the travelling library is added and becomes a part of this great university, which is thus extended over the entire State.

So you see, the mountain is made to go to Mohammed in the neatest possible fashion, and the best books, the best lectures and the best learning which the State has to afford goes



trundling over the length and breadth of the State, from village to hamlet, wherever their coming is desired.

Is not this true democratization of education?

I know of no plan which, by its breadth of aim and far-reaching results, seems to promise such great results in the attainment of universal education.

This broad view of University Extension is the great educational idea of the century to come; it is pre-eminently the idea for America, because its every premise is based squarely upon the democratic ideal.

Let us then do what we can in striving to apply it to our civilization, which with its vast and ever-increasing educational machinery stands so much in need of systematization and unification.

If, however, we are to secure the great and lasting results which the system promises it must be adopted in this broad and legislative manner. University Extension is a great principle and method of education, and must be dealt with by the State as a factor in the educational problem. A dab of University Extension here, and an experiment yonder, will not bring great results. By some such plan as I have thus cursorily outlined it must be applied to the whole educational life and system of a State.

The manner of application, of course, must be a question of each State.

I recognize too strongly the common sense of the good old doctrine of States Rights, to question this. But a tremendous force would be gained if we all had in view the same general end. Each State, according to its conditions, working on the problem at the point where it finds itself, but each one knowing just what ultimatum she desires and the steps she must take to reach it. The pioneers would blaze out the way, making a path for the later States to follow, and when the end should be finally attained in them all the United States would find itself with a unified system of higher education which would astound the world.

May we not hope that in future times we may be able to say that the chief connection between the two great movements which we have discussed today lies in the fact that Women's Clubs did much in securing a general State acceptance of University Extension in America.

### SENCE MARY JINED THE CLUB.

BY SAM WALTER FOSS.

YIS, life 'ith us hez allus bin a pooty serious rub;  
But somehow things is pleasanter sence Mary jined the club.

Mary's a marster han' to talk, a reg'lar talk ex-pert;  
But w'at she useter talk about wuz cleanin' house an' dirt;  
'Bout bringing' mud in on my feet, an' hangin' up my clo'es;  
Of Tom's protrudin' elbows an' of Dick's protrudin' toes;  
An' 'bout her pies that got baked-on, 'bout her pèrservees that soured,

An' 'bout her tin an' pewter pans she never could keep scoured;  
An' 'bout the everlastin' flies she driv out twice a day,  
'Bout rats that et her cheeses up an' cats that spilt her whey;  
'Bout cramp-spells with her scrubbin' brush, an' backache at her tub—

An' all that ar I useter hear 'fore Mary jined her club.

But now she talks 'bout Tennerson—the potery man, you know—

The potery man who writ so much—whose writin's jingle so;  
About Jonmilton's bunkum verse, the best thing of its kind.  
In his book about the devil w'ich he writ w'en he wuz blind;  
An' 'bout a man named Shakespeare, too, whose geenyus hed no clogs,

Who spent his life in writin' down a mess er dialogues;  
An' a man who writ long stories that her club folks greatly prize—

George W. Eliot I believe—they seem to me like lies;—  
An' 'bout a chap named Blueing too—no—Browning—that's his name,

Who writ a book of puzzles with no answers to the same;  
An' ol Alf. Walter Emerson an' Wendull Phillips Holmes,  
James Rustle Lynn—No? Lowell?—Yis—who writ so many pomes;

Sence all this stuff I hear about my life ain't such a rub,  
An' now I hear this ev'ry day sence Mary jined the club.

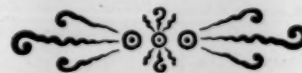
An' sometimes she gits talkin' 'bout the rennyсарnce of art.  
I don't know nothin' w'at it means, but she duz—she is smart!  
W'y the words she uses sometimes they is pufficky immense,  
'Bout the "re-hab-bil-i-tashun of the scientific sense."  
An' she talks of everlution: Say? you know what that ar is?  
Yer don't? Wall then I'll tell ye jest to show she knows her biz:

It is matter's intergration  
With konkomentant disserpation  
Of motion  
From incoherunt homergenierty  
To a koherunt Hattie Rowe Genierty—  
Cute notion!

Yes, sir! that is everlution. There yer hev it plain an' flat,—  
An' Mary knows a lot er things that's pootier than that;  
An' now Mary talks 'em to me, w'y, my life ain't sich a rub,  
It's one sweet song of pooty words sence Mary jined the club.

Sometimes she talks for hours 'bout the planet Satan's rings,  
The neberler hypothernuse an' them ar sort er things;  
About the lates' theories of bisickle research,  
An' lots er new theology I never heerd in church.  
She knows the ol philosophers that any man can know,  
She knows John Stuart Factory an' Edward Ev'ritt Snow;  
She describes the great procession that the equernoxes made,—  
An' I thought the way she told it 'twas a tarnal long parade.  
Oh, life ain't w'at it useter be, 'tain't no sich grind an' scrub,  
For I jest soak in litracher sence Mary jined the club.

The excellent report of the Wisconsin convention in this number is by Mrs. Ella Hoes Neville, corresponding secretary of the Wisconsin Federation, and author of "Historic Green Bay"—a little brochure which attracted much favorable notice from scholarly critics last year. Mrs. Neville's home is in Green Bay, where she is one of the most active of club women.



## THE ART OF SELECTION.

[Following is the main part of the address of welcome which was given by Mrs. Kate Trimble Stein of the Norton Art Club at the recent convention of the Colorado Federation at Pueblo.]

THE hardening into our grooves renders us liable to contract narrow views and peculiar ideas which are certain to overthrow our supremacy in our home kingdom or our world kingdom. There is a graceful and not undignified way of managing to be of our time which does not involve the abandonment of whatever force our individuality may have, nor does it demand any loss of personal opinion: it is done by allowing the world to order the unessential details which are common, and by keeping abreast of our times. In this way, the past counteracts the errors of the present, and the present beautifies the past.

In all, however, there has been a sense of humiliation, a feeling that we have been more or less shut in to the little things that we were doing, and that the great bulk of the world—indeed, the whole of the world it has sometimes seemed—has been shut out from us. If we had only "An ocean of zeal mixed with a drop of capacity," how could these existences be broadened? How could these points of contact be obtained with anything that others are doing and have been doing, but which we will never do; yet which belong to the great life of which our little lives are a part and the study and appreciation of which make real and larger our own lives as there is let upon them the light of literature, of history and of art—light from all the great life that has been and still is and is around us everywhere? Women's clubs formed for the study of these and kindred subjects have given us these points of contact—they supply both the opportunity and the stimulus. "Exercise, study, love, who believes in this trinity redeems herself from old age."

Day by day the list grows smaller, let us devoutly pray, of the women of whom it has been said they are "nice but limited"; women who are bounded on the north by servants, on the south by children, on the east by ailments and on the west by clothes. With all this woman is willing to listen nowadays in the gospel of progress, to which she diligently hearkens, to an occasional sermon on the text, "Make haste slowly."

It is purely a case for the individual. Every woman should cultivate for herself the art of selection which is to be accomplished as the Bible tells us our salvation is worked out, by each one alone. It is a matter of personal environment, opportunity, needs, and the thousand and one ramifications of the question as presented to each life. When the estimate of the energy that may be expended is made and the best outlet for it found, it should be resolutely adhered to. The real moment of trial comes when one is tempted to add a little here and a little there.

But one should stand firm. It is easy in these days to dissipate one's emotions and enthusiasms under the most laudable auspices. Club women especially feel this strain, and are led into too many organizations. The splendid practical results which stand to their credit show the power they are—a power that is soon consumed, but which can be preserved to immeasurably greater results if only guided with wisdom and economy.

Seeds of many varieties may be sown in the same earth. In obedience to the law of its being each plant selects from the soil surrounding it the elements necessary to its own growth, and combines them in its leaf and flower, each different, yet all perfect and all beautiful. So in our women's clubs is spread about their members all the elements of intellectual, poetic and artistic life. The selective faculty in each woman takes from the common mass that which is fitted to her needs and appropriate to her taste and energies. The mental growth may or

may not reach its full flower in an essay, paper or address; but a rich soil has been prepared where there was a waste before, and an awakening into life has been accomplished.

For many a woman formerly shut in on every side by daily cares, there are now breaks and openings, giving beautiful prospects and sometimes long delightful vistas. Let no one be discouraged by the thought that she is not original, that she is merely working over or assimilating the thoughts and productions of others. Remember that "no great thinker ever lived and taught you all the wonder that his soul received."

Knowledge and taste are as indestructible as matter. They are our inheritance just as the material world is our inheritance. We work with them and leave them to our successors. They are like the water in the atmosphere which falls on one portion of the earth, is reabsorbed, carried on and falls again on another portion, refreshing all in turn.

## ON CLUB RECIPROCITY.

BY HARRIET WALRATH KITTS, MUNCIE, INDIANA.

"Out of my lean and low ability  
I'll lend you something."

—Twelfth Night.

A CLUB that lives too much within itself is bound to become narrow, opinionated, self-satisfied. Contact with the outer world is just as necessary to the healthy mental growth of an organization as it is to an individual; without it each soon falls into ruts, becomes an old fogey, a "back number," a fossil. And it does not take long nowadays to produce a fossil. A few short years suffice.

In early days—and not so long ago, either, for the oldest one is not yet thirty—clubs were so busy in learning how to take their first steps, that they had no time to teach others how to walk. Everything was new and strange. There were no elder sisters to guide their faltering footsteps. Each young life had to work out its own salvation. But infancy, with all its attendant ills once safely passed, those vigorous pioneers began to look about, to consider how they might help the sisterhood. Soon "open meetings" were added to the calendar, then "guest days" and finally federations. Thus sprang into existence what is now known as "club reciprocity," which means that the good in a club shall occasionally go beyond its membership.

But it is time now that reciprocity should take on a broader signification. To give "occasionally" should no longer satisfy the end-of-the-century club. Devise a method whereby other clubs of your city or town may obtain a glimpse of your everyday life—not your holiday life, such as you enjoy in your open meetings, guest days and conventions, when you have donned your company manners and your best clothes.

Every club, no matter how small or modest, has something in it that distinguishes it from others, something that makes it particularly attractive to its members. Let other clubs enjoy this phase, and profit by it. At every meeting, unless business or other private reasons forbid—as, of course, frequently happens—invite two or more members from another club to attend your session. When you have extended such courtesy to all the clubs of your city, begin over again, and invite two or more other members. In this way you will soon be constantly making and receiving club visits, comparing methods, brushing away cobwebs, eliminating egotism—in fact, deriving that incalculable benefit which is acquired only from contact with the outer progressive world.

The essence of the real club is democracy.



## ONE WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE.

My Dear Club Woman:

In your admirable article on women as public speakers you give this invaluable bit of advice: "Be self-possessed. If you can't be self-possessed, be as self-possessed as you can." Oh, that this advice had reached my ears a little sooner! But it's too late now; I have sinned away my day of grace, as you shall hear.

Our president asked me to make a two-minute impromptu speech at a little symposium to be given our club members at her house. She said she would like to have me speak on "The Modern Blue-Stocking."

Now I had three good reasons for accepting this invitation.

First, I liked our president and was anxious to oblige her. Second, when I joined the club I made up my mind to do anything I was told, except to sing; my reasons for this last reservation being solely altruistic, and, as such, creditable alike to my heart and my understanding. Third, the modern blue-stockings is no end of a good subject, and the minute it was mentioned to me I felt the ideas begin to swell and surge till I knew no pent-up Utica of two minutes could contain them.

Being desirous to comply with instructions and have the speech strictly impromptu, I went right to work as soon as our president left, and jotted down several ideas which I afterwards elaborated into something like this:—no, on second thought there's no use disinterring the affair at this late day. Suffice it to say, the speech was in a gently sportive vein which even I could not fail to admit was bound to be distinctly fetching.

Then I committed it thoroughly to memory, for with an impromptu speech one cannot be too careful.

I used to say it over nights before I went to sleep, and every time I woke up I said it some more. During the day I would practise it before the mirror; poising myself gracefully upon my toes (eliminating abdominal exuberance), I would throw my voice, a pure contralto of marvellous timbre (I don't know exactly what that means, but you mustn't think I have a wooden voice, for I haven't) out of the window and into the outlying suburbs, for I was determined to be heard, come what would.

As the time drew near my appetite failed and my eyes accumulated a strained, far-away expression, so that my friends thought I was learning the bicycle.

I tried to accustom my mentality to the thought of one hundred faces all looking at me, and then the floor would begin to bulge and the furniture to erupt and desiccate. Still, I could feel that I was getting things down pretty fine, and at times I was almost calm.

The night before I was to speak I had a confident and glorious night. I could just see myself standing before those women and rolling off my Johnsonian periods in a way that could not fail to inspire respect, if no deeper emotion. And I determined to put on my silk petticoat; I call it my emergency petticoat because I always feel so heartened and upheld when I have it on. I never would dare to try to borrow money without having that petticoat on; it gives me a moral force and assurance that my moreen cannot bestow.

Well, the dreaded day came, and what do you suppose I did? Hired a livery rig and drove out into the country; wandered about in the oak scrubs all that blessed afternoon. Before I went, I sent word to our president that I greatly regretted that unexpected business called me out of town.

Since then I have made two more attempts at impromptu speaking, about which I will tell you some time, if you care to hear.

ALICE M. WOOD.

## "UNITED WE STAND."

BY ALICE FRYE BRIGGS, PRESIDENT MAINE FEDERATION.

A thunderstorm arose while a farmer was trying to get in his wheat: everyone worked as hard as he could. A little son, catching the spirit of hurry, attempted to bind the sheaves, but his little hands were too small. He gave it up, but only to undertake something he could do, the bringing of cold water from a spring, thus giving the sustaining power to the reapers. You may not have the time or power to do the greater work of the organization, but is it not worth something to be the sustaining power?

Be loyal to your Federation. Stimulate and strengthen it so that it may grow in good works. Talk less and work more, is good advice. Human sympathy, the students of social science assert, is the moral force that is today more needed than aught else in the world. Let us have it in a large measure heaped up and running over. "In it," say they, "lies the germ of all social progress." We aspire to progression; human sympathy will aid us.

There is an old Spanish proverb that reads "Three working together are equal to six working separately." If this be true, what may we not accomplish, whose aims and sympathies are one, if we each persistently do our part, no matter if it is only to bring the cup of cool water? Surely we can exert a powerful influence which will tell for good in the educational, moral, social, political and economic life of our State.

The typical Chicago girl learns how to fire china. The typical Boston girl learns how to fire a pot of beans.

Some one said something the other day about a woman who belonged to ten different clubs. "Ten different clubs!" cried a listener. "She might just as well belong to ten different religions."

Mrs. Ward's department of club study and Mrs. Osgood's monthly lessons in parliamentary law, with certain other departments to be added later, will make the Club Woman an indispensable aid to every earnest club worker.

We do not give a handsome gold watch, nor even a diamond ring, as a premium to subscribers of The Club Woman at one dollar a year, but we do cheerfully guarantee to give every subscriber her full money's worth in good, honest, up-to-date reading matter.

The house of Shepard, Norwell & Co., Boston, now enjoys a reputation that is known all over the United States. The Club Woman takes pleasure in recommending the great variety of silks, woollens and other dress goods, the fine upholsteries and draperies of every kind, the suit, cloak and fancy waist departments, the corner for infants' wear, the millinery and fancy neckwear, the housekeeper's department, and especially the fine blankets which are advertised in another column. In Boston the words "Shepard, Norwell & Co." are synonymous for fair dealing and fine goods, and the mail order department gives women all over the land an opportunity to put the comparison to a test. Shepard, Norwell & Co.'s is one of the few firms that is exactly what it claims to be—a first-class house in every respect.

\* \* \*

The Club Woman, one dollar a year in advance.

## CLUB STUDY DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY MAY ALDEN WARD.

**I**T is a hopeful sign that so many clubs are turning away from the probing of all kinds of miscellaneous problems and giving their attention to the study of their own country. At a recent meeting of the State Federation of Maine, the reports of club work showed that nearly two-thirds of the clubs of Maine were giving special attention to the study of American history and literature. Several requests have come to "The Club Woman" for an outline of a year's work in the study of American history, adapted to patriotic societies.

The following outline is submitted in answer to those requests:—

## AMERICAN HISTORY.

## PERIOD OF DISCOVERY:

Voyage of Columbus.  
Voyages of the Cabots.  
Spanish Explorations.  
French Explorations.

## COLONIZATION:

The Virginia Colony.  
Pilgrims and Puritans.  
The Dutch Settlers.  
Southern Colonies.  
Quakers.

## COLONIAL LIFE:

The Indian as we found him.  
Early Indian Wars.  
Laws and Customs of the Colonies.  
The Witchcraft Delusion.  
French and Indian Wars.

## REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD:

Causes of the Revolution.  
Writs of Assistance.  
The Stamp Act.  
Boston Port Bill.

## INSTIGATORS OF THE REVOLUTION:

James Otis.  
Patrick Henry.  
Samuel Adams.

## BEGINNINGS OF THE REVOLUTION:

Continental Congress.  
Boston Tea Party.  
Battle of Lexington.  
Battle of Bunker Hill.

## THE LEADERS OF THE MOVEMENT:

Declaration of Independence.  
Thomas Jefferson.  
John Adams.  
George Washington.

## SOME OTHER HEROES OF THE REVOLUTION:

Ethan Allen.  
Israel Putnam.  
Lafayette.  
Nathaniel Greene.

## COLLATERAL EVENTS:

Paul Jones and the American Navy.  
Treason of Benedict Arnold.  
Women of the Revolution.

## THE CRITICAL PERIOD:

Making of the Constitution.  
Alexander Hamilton.  
John Jay.  
Benjamin Franklin.  
Other American Statesmen of that Day.

## THE NEW NATION:

Workings of the Constitution.  
Origin of Political Parties.  
Our Early Presidents.

## GROWTH OF THE UNITED STATES:

War of 1812—Causes and Results.  
"Old Hickory" and His Party.  
Opening of the Northwest.

## RISE AND FALL OF THE SLAVE POWER:

Anti-Slavery Leaders.

## INDUSTRIAL GROWTH OF THE COUNTRY:

Introduction of the Steamboat.  
The Railroad.  
The Telegraph.

## THE CIVIL WAR:

Lincoln.  
Grant.  
Southern Leaders.  
Reconstruction.

## PROGRESS SINCE THE WAR:

How We are Governed.  
Problems of To-day in American Politics.

## AUTHORITIES.

## DISCOVERY AND EARLY INHABITANTS:

"The Discovery of America," by John Fiske.  
"Famous Explorers," by Sarah K. Bolton.

## COLONIAL PERIOD:

"The Beginnings of New England," Fiske.  
"The Colonial Era," Fisher.  
"Old Times in the Colonies," Charles Carleton Coffin.  
"The Pilgrim Republic," Prof. Goodwin.  
"Pioneers of France in the New World," Parkman.  
"Montcalm and Wolfe," Parkman.  
"Virginia," John Esten Cooke.

## REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD:

"The American Revolution," John Fiske.  
"French War and the Revolution," Sloane.  
"Life of Samuel Adams," Hosmer.  
"Life of Washington," Scudder.  
"Life of Franklin," McMaster.

## LATER PERIODS:

"Critical Period of American History," John Fiske.  
"History of the People of the United States," John Bach McMaster.  
"History of the United States from the Compromise of 1850," Rhodes.  
"American Commonwealth," James Bryce.

## BRIEF HISTORIES:

"Leading Events of American History," Montgomery.  
"The Growth of the American Nation," Judson.  
"Industrial Development of the United States," Wright.  
"English History for American Readers," T. W. Higginson.



## AN OPEN PARLIAMENT.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. ETTA H. OSGOOD.

Can a nomination be seconded, thereby taking precedence of previous nominations made in the usual manner? How can this be done, and, if it can, where is the authority to be found?

Before being "seconded" a nomination must be made. Nominations made "in the usual manner" have precedence, but unless the rules of the society prohibit it, after the nominations are regularly presented any one may nominate from the floor, which nomination should be seconded, though in those societies whose guide is the Woman's Manual it need not be. These nominees are as regularly before the assembly as those presented in any other way. In fact, if such nominations are not made any member may "write in," if printed ballots are used, or if written ballots, she may write upon her slip any name she chooses, unless there should be a society arbitrary enough to make a by-law prohibiting balloting for any but the regular candidates.

Every assembly is governed: First, by its own constitution and by-laws; second, by the manual of its choice; third, by common parliamentary law. The Woman's Manual is the only one which speaks directly of the matter of extra nominations, but all manuals give this authority inferentially by declaring that there should be perfect freedom and fairness in the choice of officers. The Constitution of the United States and the constitutions of the several States provide for methods of election, but this has never precluded the independent votes which we see recorded under the head of "Scat."

At the meeting of the Maine Federation the chairman asked to have the "previous question defined" when some one moved it. It was done. Then an important little lady rose and said, "Is there not an amendment before the house, and must not that be voted on first?" Was she in order?

It is always in order to ask a question, but the manner of it was not in order. Possibly she did not hear, and if she did not, to have it repeated she should have risen to a "question of privilege." If she did not understand, to a "parliamentary inquiry," and if she thought she understood and others were wrong, to a "point of order." In the first place, the chair would have repeated or asked the one who explained the matter to do so; in the second, the chair would have answered; in the third the chair would have ruled the point of order "not to be well taken," as it goes without saying that an amendment must be voted on before the main question. Had the previous question been moved in the amendment the situation would have been entirely changed. In the latter case applying only to the amendment, but when the previous question is moved without any qualification, it comprises whatever question is before the house. When ordered, all debate ceases and the question is put, on the amendments first, if there be any, and then on the main question, neither debate nor further amendment being allowed.

Is business transacted at a picnic legal?

Not unless the picnic was a special meeting called to con-

sider the business in question. No business other than that mentioned in the call can be transacted at a regularly called special meeting, unless by unanimous consent.

What did you mean by "not observing the formalities" at the last "Open Parliament"? That, considering the distance, members need not "obtain the floor." What does that mean?

To obtain the floor is to rise in your place and say, "Mrs. Chairman," then to wait until the chair pronounces your name. You then have the floor, that is, you have the right to speak until you choose to stop. If there is a time limit, you must stop when that time expires, on being notified by the chair or time-keeper. You may be interrupted by points of order or questions of privilege, but even the chair may not interrupt you otherwise. Should a member break in with a question and you allow it, if you remain standing you do not relinquish the floor, but having allowed the question, unless you limit your interlocutor you are powerless to stop the flow of eloquence, and may in this way be defrauded of your just rights, but it will be on your own head.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

THIS department will be open for questions on all subjects pertaining to women's clubs. It will be an "Open Court," in which every club woman is invited not only to ask questions but to assist in answering them.

Half-minute questions and one-minute answers will be the rule governing all participants.

Address all communications for this department to Correspondence Editor, The Club Woman, 104 School Street, Egleston Square, Boston, Mass.

Questions will be numbered consecutively; replies should be numbered to correspond with the questions.

Owing to a pressure for space this month, answers to questions 3, 4 and 5 must be postponed.

## QUESTIONS.

6. Can you give me any data with regard to the organization of Mothers' Clubs?

7. To what extent are women's clubs working in connection with the "University Extension," and how is the work conducted?

Women's clubs! By all means organize them! There is nothing that is more conducive of good. The social element alone is a great factor in the life of the quiet home body. The timid woman learns, to her amazement, that she, too, can talk when a certain theory, idea, fact or fancy is being discussed. In order that these meetings be the most profitable, the subjects chosen should be of the most practical every-day nature. Select a leader to write a paper, or to "talk it off" if she prefers; then allow free discussion afterward. Do not endeavor to have these discussions very learned and literary at first; if you do, they who most need such clubs will surely shun them. Begin at the foundation where all can stand on equal footing. The different phases of housekeeping, homemaking and training of children offer an abundant field for the earlier efforts, one upon which any woman will feel at home. As the members of the club gain confidence in themselves, more literary topics can be chosen.—Ella Bartlett Simmons, Rife, Col.

## General Federation of Women's Clubs.

### LIST OF OFFICERS:

President,  
**MRS. ELLEN M. HENROTIN,**  
 Stock Exchange Building, Chicago.  
 Vice-President,  
**MRS. ALICE IVES BREED,**  
 Deer Cove, Lynn, Mass.

Recording Secretary,  
**MRS. C. P. BARNES,**  
 1026 3d Avenue, Louisville, Ky.  
 Corresponding Secretary,  
**MRS. PHILIP N. MOORE,**  
 1520 Mississippi Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

Treasurer,  
**MRS. FRANK TRUMBULL,**  
 1439 Franklin Street, Denver, Colo.  
 Auditor,  
**MISS ANNIE LAWS,**  
 818 Dayton Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### THE DENVER BIENNIAL.

**T**HE club women of Denver are already busy with their preparations for the Biennial, which comes to them next June. It is yet too early for great activity, but the local board holds regular meetings, at which it is quietly laying plans for the brightest and best biennial yet held. Among all the clubs, not only of the city but of the State, there is a feeling of eager anticipation of the good time coming. Western hospitality is proverbial. Denver people love to entertain, and they have had great practice in that direction.

Denver is the convention city of the continent. From all quarters of the country they come each summer, people interested in every imaginable thing under the sun; and they are always royally met and go away with the praise of Denver in their mouths. In the entertainment of these many conventions the women have done their full share. When the legions of N. E. A. swarmed down upon us, committees from the Woman's Club added greatly to the success of the occasion. The women learned to handle crowds then. At the annual festival of Mountain and Plain, which brings seething thousands to Denver each fall, committees from the Woman's Club always play an active part in perfecting the arrangements. So the preparations for the biennial do not seem so great a task as they otherwise might.

Most of the clubs have incorporated something in their programs for this year, which will prepare them to enjoy the literary programs of the biennial to better advantage. Denver women look forward with intense interest to welcoming the women of whom they have read and heard so often. The biennial cannot help but promote a splendid feeling of mutual interest and good fellowship between the women of the East and the West. If the East and the West only understood each other, the bitter feelings that have found a foothold in the past could not continue. The biennial will help them to understand.

The biennial local board has engaged the Broadway Theatre for the sessions of the biennial, including the Sunday night on which the great public meeting will take place. On this occasion the leading lights of the Federation will speak on "The Spiritual Significance of Organization." This meeting is a pet plan of Mrs. Henrotin's.

The Broadway seats nearly 2,000, including the 300 who may find places upon the stage. The acoustic properties are of the best, and as several Denver women have spoken there at various times, with perfect ease both to themselves and their listeners, it is thought that there will be no trouble on this score.

There will be reading and rest rooms, telephone, conveniences for letters, telegrams, or doing anything, in fact, that a club woman could possibly want to do, under the same roof. All this is under the charge of Mrs. John L. McNeil, than whom no lady is better fitted to plan and execute a matter including multifarious detail. The theatre will be freshly decked each morning with the famous wild flowers of the Rockies, gathered and sent in by the club women of the mountain towns.

One afternoon will be given to private receptions, the different delegations being divided among different houses. The richest and most influential women of Denver are on the committee having this matter in charge. There will also be one grand reception at the chief hotel of the city, where all may meet together socially.

A far more characteristic occasion, however, will be an excursion "around the Loop," the typical scenic excursion which is taken by all tourists who desire to catch a glimpse of the Rockies without going far from Denver. The club women of Denver will join the visitors upon this excursion, which occupies a day, with dinner at a mining town in the hills. Other routes will be left to the visitors' own choosing, very cheap rates prevailing throughout the State.

The programs of the various sessions are under the charge of the General Federation, the Denver women having little more to do with them than others. That they will excel those of all previous biennials is undoubted; for with each biennial, experience widens, and the outlook grows.

The Eastern Club woman, if she plans to take her summer outing in Colorado next year, may be sure of one thing. She will see the Western woman upon her native heath. The women of the Rocky Mountain region and the prairie States will come to the Denver biennial in throngs. The club women of Kansas and other neighboring States are planning to attend en masse. Never was such interest felt by the women of the West in any event of the kind, and never will there be such an opportunity for the women of every section to learn to know each other. The visitors, by the way, will see the voting woman on her native heath, and, with her, delegates from four other suffrage States.

The local biennial board is composed of the following ladies: President, Mrs. James B. Grant; recording secretary, Mrs. A. M. Welles; corresponding secretary, Mrs. John L. McNeil; treasurer, Mrs. Owen E. LeFevre. Committees and chairmen: Bureau of information, Mrs. John L. McNeil; hotels, Miss Laura Parsons; music and place of meeting, Miss Ida A. Miller; entertainment, Mrs. William G. Fisher; advisory, Mrs. Frank Trumbull, Mrs. Eli M. Ashley, Mrs. Mahlon D. Thatcher, Mrs. Sarah S. Platt; press, Minnie J. Reynolds; transportation, Mrs. James M. Walker; finance, Mrs. Owen E. LeFevre; program, Mrs. Geo. L. Scott; decoration and ushers, Mrs. Frank J. Mott; excursions, Mrs. J. C. Chase; badges, Mrs. James B. Belford; credentials, Mrs. Wm. H. Kistler, Mrs. James D. Whitmore.

MINNIE J. REYNOLDS.

Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, president of the G. F. W. C., is expected East early in the winter, and will be present either at the December or the January meeting of the Massachusetts Federation. Mrs. Henrotin will receive a cordial welcome wherever she goes.



## STATE FEDERATION NEWS

THE Massachusetts and the New Hampshire Federations have each adopted *The Club Woman* as their official organ. Some of the Western Federations are going to do the same thing, recognizing in this periodical one which aims to bring out the best and highest work among federated clubs all over this country. There is need of an organ which does not confine itself to one locality or allow itself any partiality among clubs. The country is so large and our own work at home seems so important that there is very great danger of the ordinary woman becoming too much absorbed in her own locality. She lets the work immediately surrounding her crowd out her comprehension of the tremendous movement going on simultaneously throughout the country. She is in danger of not seeing, in short, beyond her own club-nose.

It is in this broad sense that *The Club Woman* aims to be an organ for any and all club women. The members of clubs should take the paper which gives the best "club column" recording the doings of the clubs of their immediate locality, thus keeping in touch with the movement in their own State. But the work of *The Club Woman* is much broader than that. The "long-felt want" which it has come to fill concerns not the doings of individual clubs so much: it covers the correlation of forces all over the world: it will show the club presidents and officers of the State Federation what is going on in other States, and it will bring the woman of limited opportunity and narrow horizon into contact with the best thought of the leaders of the club movement in America.

The editor of *The Club Woman* started and still conducts one of the oldest and one of the best-known "club-columns" of today. But it was because she came to realize how great is the field for a general publication, and how necessarily limited on any newspaper is the space that can be given up to it, that *The Club Woman* has come to stay. By all means read and support your favorite local "club column"—but if you mean to be an up-to-date club woman you must keep track of what is going on in the different parts of the country and among the other State Federations.

## THE NEW HAMPSHIRE FEDERATION.

The second annual meeting of the New Hampshire Federation convened at Somersworth, October 27-29. At a session of the council held on the first afternoon, two clubs were admitted to membership, making the total number forty-three. The Somersworth Woman's Club gave a reception in Memorial Hall on the same evening to the State officers, delegates and invited guests. This was exclusively a social occasion. Music, light refreshments, and tasteful decorations in green and silver, the colors of the Federation, added pleasure to an evening made memorable by the presence of so many welcome guests. Mrs. Lillian C. Streeter of Concord, honorary president; Mrs. Eliza Nelson Blair of Manchester, president; Mrs. Susan C. Bancroft of Concord and Mrs. Ellen M. Mason of North Conway, vice-presidents, and Miss Caroline E. Whitcomb of Keene and Mrs. Olive Rand Clarke of Manchester, secretaries, were assisted in receiving by Mrs. Knapp, Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. Carter of the local club. More than two hundred persons were present.

On Thursday morning the preliminary exercises consisted of a piano duet by Mrs. Lawson and Miss Hodsdon of Somersworth, a hymn and invocation, and "He is Watching Over Israel," admirably sung by Mrs. Olive Hill Houston of Dover. As reported by the committee on credentials, the official list of State officers, presidents and delegates contained sixty-four

entries. In six cases, however, officers also registered as delegates, so that the executive assembly consisted of fifty-eight persons, and represented thirty-six clubs. The presence of club members other than delegates increased the attendance to more than a hundred each session. Mrs. Susan H. Knapp, president of the local club, gave the address of welcome and said in part: "We have no wonderful things to show you; no boundless ocean, no historic mansions, no mountains, no lakes, but we have pleasant, cosy homes, and to these we welcome you with great cordiality and kindness. We do not expect to entertain angels, but we do hope to entertain noble, gifted women—women who will lift us out of ruts, give us broader and deeper views of life and help us to attain that which is highest and best."

Mrs. Sarah A. Blodgett, president of the Franklin Club, made an impromptu and graceful response. The usual reports were then read. The pen of a ready writer was evident in the report of the corresponding secretary, Mrs. Clarke, which contained pleasant comment on current statistics and a graphic and enthusiastic description of the field meeting at Plymouth. The charter members of the Federation number twenty-two; seven clubs joined during the first year and fifteen during the past year, while one withdrew, making the present number forty-three. Only seven of these contain more than one hundred members and the average membership of the remainder is less than thirty each. The New Hampshire Audubon Society, which is a club in all but name, was warmly welcomed into the Federation this year, and we have also a foreign colony, the Clover Culture Club of Mt. Silinda, Massurizi, East Africa. Its constituents number four, all missionaries, and one a New Hampshire woman. On the first Monday of each month current events is the topic of the regular meeting of this club, on the second and third Bible study, and for the remaining, musical and literary programs are provided, with coffee and cakes, and the three gentlemen of the mission are invited. Truly a club in miniature.

Mrs. Harriet Burlingame, president of the Woman's Club of Exeter, reported for the committee on education. The lecturer of the evening was chosen at the request of this committee, by way of awakening interest in the problems of the schools. Mrs. Mary E. Woodman of West Lebanon read a timely paper on the subject, "What Forests and Shady Roads Mean to New Hampshire." She spoke of the beauty of the mountains and forests; the wise use of the latter for lumber and as reservoirs of water, yielding a good profit and insuring their perpetuity; the work of the Forestry Commission in establishing State reservations, securing legislation to prevent great forest fires and recommending practical instruction in forestry; observance of Arbor Day and its benefit in creating public sentiment. She suggested more study respecting the extermination of those pests which destroy foliage in summer; that trees, fountains and bicycle tracks be maintained along the principal highways of the State; that it should be the duty of each citizen to do all in his power to make our State attractive in every way. Forests and shady roads mean to New Hampshire continued enjoyment of beauty and healthfulness, a constantly replenished purse and a heritage for generations to come.

The remainder of the morning session was spent in the discussion and adoption of a new draft of the constitution.

At the opening of the afternoon session Miss M. E. Currier of Boston was granted five minutes, and made an earnest plea for the better education of girls in the rural districts. As the first regular number upon the program, Mrs. Melusina H. Varick of Manchester, member of the State Board of Charities, read an able and practical "Study of New Hampshire State Charities for Children," which will be printed in full in our next number.

"Child Study in the Club" was the title of a suggestive paper by Miss Emma Fairbanks of Nashua, in part as follows:—

"Child-Study is primarily a matter of intuitive sympathy with children. Perfect sympathy means perfect justice. To have such sympathy is the practical outcome of all child-study. Child-Study really began three centuries ago, though its modern application goes back only a little more than a decade. It is called a "fad" by many. It has really come to stay, and is a part of a psychological movement which attempts to adapt training to individual needs. If we decide to take up this subject perhaps the best way will be to make the most out of what others have learned and done. There are now organized Child-Study classes in more than twenty States in our Union. Dr. Hall of Clark University prepares every year a different series of syllabi which are very instructive. The Illinois society publishes the Child-Study Monthly which is a great help in studying children. One desirable way would be to form a mother's club, where every-day problems could be looked in the face, solved and recognized. For club work, I am inclined to recommend the Mother-Play Study Course which is conducted by Miss Blow in the Kindergarten magazine."

Miss N. F. Pierce of Portsmouth, in a paper, entitled, "The Ethical Value of Art in the Public Schools," presented a series of ideas, of which the value is already being acknowledged:—

"Nature recognizes nothing but improvement in successive orders. Every healthy new life holds more germs of broader development than its predecessors, inherited from the broader opportunities enjoyed by them. Instincts are but inherited methods of action. One of the divine attributes implanted in the human breast is a love for beauty. This is accompanied by the desire to make manifest the ideal in visible form. But there is little to develop this love for beauty in the surroundings of the masses. It must be correctly developed in the school. The influence of environment is all-powerful. Art serves as a mediator between the minds of children and the kingdom of nature. The correlation of art with the common school studies serves to enrich and ennoble the oft-times dull routine of daily work."

Five minutes was accorded to Miss M. J. Patterson, in which she asked interest and attendance at an art conference to be held at Portsmouth, December 11. The two-minute reports from clubs had been transferred from the morning session and were somewhat hurried by the lateness of the hour. Each report, without exception, included work in some department of intellectual culture. The subjects more frequently mentioned were current events, modern nations, general history, English and American literature, especially Shakespeare, and historic art. Many clubs have added social pleasures as a subordinate feature. Attention to education was evinced by work for libraries and schools, and there were many indications of an increasing interest in philanthropy.

At the evening session Mrs. Olive Hill Houston and Mrs. Matilda P. Haines sang very agreeably, and Mrs. Blair read the president's annual address, of which the following are the closing paragraphs:—

"This State Federation is now ready for active service. It has chosen to become an ally of schools and charities, to look into the forestry question, and will form committees on civics and economics. Our work is all before us. What shall we attempt? Some great thing? To do one's bounden duty, that is great. So striving we sometimes touch the divine.

"We have a large, strong organization, but we are not therefore powerful. Our strength lies in the individual club and individual member. This Federation is simply a clearing house where separate clubs bring their wealth of thought and exchange opinions. Here they settle our public action. It is what they make it. We do not claim to be the only elevating social force. We recognize many others and are happy to work

with them. We enter upon the new year, so full of hope and promise, determined upon higher development of our membership in sweet and steadfast womanliness; anxious to answer a good conscience to fathers, husbands and children, as wise, efficient women; proud of our dear old State and loyal to its every interest, longing for its highest welfare, bringing swift and willing hands and minds to its support. True men and women have blessed the State and country but we all move to something higher; we expect it; we believe in its coming.

"So hoping in its heart of hearts, this Federation goes forward to help, as much as in it lies in its short day, towards a coming citizenship of rich intelligence and broad horizons; grand, symmetrical, reliant and reliable as the mighty hills among which it shall live and move."

Prof. Fred. Gowing, State superintendent of public instruction, then spoke upon the topic: "How can the Federation Benefit Our State Schools." He outlined the intricate problem which confronts a teacher, asked for more active interest in schools on the part of club women, and made helpful suggestions as to the means of becoming acquainted with this subject and assisting in building up a better public spirit towards our schools.

The closing business session on Friday morning was fully occupied. A committee consisting of Mrs. Bancroft of Concord, Mrs. Brown of Whitefield and Mrs. Allen of Peterborough, to whom the matter was referred the day before, reported the following resolutions:

"Whereas, The New Hampshire Federation of Woman's Clubs has pledged itself to promote the highest interests of the State, and having had brought to its notice the deplorable condition of the insane in some of our county almshouses,

"Resolved, That the New Hampshire Federation of Woman's Clubs lend its influence toward creating a public sentiment throughout the State for the better care and more systematic supervision of this class of our dependent poor.

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed to investigate and report at the next annual meeting the methods which scientific investigation has shown to be best adapted to secure the proper care of the indigent insane."

Committees on forestry and sociology were appointed. Next summer's field meeting will be held at Burke Haven, Lake Sunapee, at the summer home of Mrs. Margaret T. Yardley of New Jersey, who is an honorary member of the New Hampshire Federation. The Milford Woman's Club will entertain the next annual meeting. Votes of thanks were extended to the Somersworth Club and to the retiring officers. Telegrams of greeting were exchanged with the New Jersey Federation, and a letter from Mrs. Henrotin was read.

The following officers for the ensuing year were unanimously elected: President, Mrs. Eliza Nelson Blair of Manchester; vice-presidents, Mrs. Susan C. Bancroft, Concord, and Mrs. Ellen M. Mason, North Conway; corresponding secretary, Miss Kate Runnells, Nashua; recording secretary, Mrs. Harriet B. L. Perkins, Somersworth; treasurer, Mrs. Kate H. Brown, Whitefield; auditor, Mrs. Ellen L. McLane, Milford.

Mrs. Olive Rand Clarke of Manchester was chosen delegate to the biennial session of the General Federation to be held in Denver in June next, and Mrs. Lillian C. Streeter of Concord, alternate.

(Reported for "The Club Woman" by Cora Stickney of Somersworth, at the request of the Federation.)

Owing to the number and deep interest of the State Federation conventions this fall, we have had to omit several reports from this number. Michigan, New York and Massachusetts conventions will be treated in the January Club Woman.



## COLORADO.

In spite of biting blasts and formidable snow-drifts, such a blizzard, in short, as Colorado only manufactures when something of importance is "going on," a goodly delegation of undaunted women, new and old, assembled in Pueblo, October 27, to take part in the third annual reunion of the C. F. W. C. The first meeting was that of the board of directors on Wednesday afternoon, when sixteen new clubs were admitted to membership, making a total of thirty-eight admitted since last October, and increasing the total membership of the Colorado Federation to ninety clubs. From the slush of the streets and the chill of the atmosphere to the warmth and cheer of the Country Club at Lake Minnequa was a happy change, and it was a merry company of fair women and a few brave men who gathered to listen to a fine musical program and to become better acquainted.

At 9.45 the following morning, Oct. 28, the president, Mrs. M. D. Thatcher of Pueblo, rapped for order. Mrs. W. S. Graham of the Wednesday Morning Club invoked the divine blessing on the work of women, especially the deliberations of the Colorado and Pennsylvania Federations, in session at the same time. The report of the credentials committee followed; then came a bright address of welcome by Mrs. C. C. Stein of the Norton Art Club (reprinted elsewhere in this issue), responded to happily by Mrs. C. W. Belser of Boulder auditor of the C. F. W. C.

The president's address was full of recommendations to the clubs, as well as giving a report of work done during her year of office. Reports from the recording and corresponding secretaries, from the treasurer and auditor, followed, after which came interesting reports from clubs admitted since October, 1896.

The schools had been dismissed at noon, so a large number of teachers and high school pupils were present at the afternoon session. The church was crowded to the doors. Miss F. R. Clark of the Denver Tuesday Musical Club gave a piano solo in such charming style, that an encore was demanded. Mrs. S. S. Platt, president of the Woman's Club of Denver, made a brief report of the work done by the educational committee. This committee will shortly issue a pamphlet on their work, which will be sent to every State Federation in the country. Mrs. Henry Wright of the North Side Woman's Club, Denver, was heard in an able paper entitled "Education; Old Methods and New." This was followed by discussion of the following sub-topics: Child Study—Music and Art in the Public Schools, Mrs. E. W. Davis of Colorado Springs; Manners and Morals, Miss Mary A. Gamble of Boulder University; The Kindergarten vs. the High School, Miss Celia Osgood of Denver; Modern Fads in the Public Schools, Mrs. G. L. Scott, Denver, Mrs. B. F. Stickley, Leadville, Mrs. W. F. Slocum, Colorado Springs. Two or three gentlemen joined in the general discussion, and the meeting adjourned, the universal verdict being that the afternoon had been most profitably spent.

The evening meeting was largely attended and the audience was noticeable for a preponderance of semi-evening dress. Mrs. Louie Webb Kunkel of the Pueblo Conservatory of Music opened the program with an organ solo. Mrs. S. S. Platt of Denver spoke on the great good accomplished by the large club in cities; and if some of the audience would have been glad to hear an appeal for the moderate sized study club, no one doubted that the department club does a noble work. Mrs. Platt always holds the attention of her hearers and is applauded to the echo. Miss McCormick of Salt Lake City was a guest of Mrs. Thatcher during the Federation meeting and was called upon to speak. She responded so gracefully as to win the hearts of all present. Mrs. E. M. Ashley of Denver,

State chairman of correspondence with the G. F. W. C., made an interesting report of work accomplished during the year. Mrs. W. J. Whiteman, one of Denver's most popular singers, was then heard in two beautiful contralto solos. Mrs. J. A. Gravett of Grand Junction read a paper on "Patriotism, Past and Present." This was followed by five-minute discussions on "Unrecorded Patriots," in which our grandmothers came in for a share of appreciation. "Work of Patriotic Societies," "Patriotism as taught in the Public Schools," and several important subjects under "Problems of the Commonwealth," followed. When the subject of patriotism was open for general discussion, Mrs. Gilbert McClurg of Colorado Springs made an eloquent plea that Colorado women show their loyalty by trying to save the cliff dwellings of the southwestern part of the State. The Federation is pledged to do all in its power to preserve these historic remains.

Friday morning was devoted to business. The constitution was revised, the report of the committee on revision being adopted without amendment. Four delegates were elected to the G. F. W. C. biennial next June. They are: Mrs. Eugene C. Stevens, alternate, Mrs. W. B. Morgan, both of Trinidad; Mrs. B. F. Stickley, Leadville, alternate, Mrs. W. F. White, Grand Junction; Miss Mary Gamble, Boulder, alternate, Mrs. A. H. De France, Golden; Mrs. J. S. Gale, alternate, Mrs. Z. X. Snyder, both of Greeley. Pueblo, Denver and Colorado Springs waived their right to a Federation delegate, as there are so many clubs in those cities connected with the General Federation. The following resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, The women's clubs throughout the United States are becoming more and more interested in educational matters, and our national president having recommended that all clubs make our public schools a subject of special study, therefore your committee, realizing that by the present method of conducting school elections, no secrecy of ballot is possible, and there is no effective check by registration or otherwise to prevent illegal voting, be it

"Resolved, That we, members of the women's clubs of the State of Colorado, here pledge ourselves to introduce and support in the next General Assembly such a law as shall do away with the above defects and shall also prohibit members of school boards now sitting as judges of school meetings; and be it further

"Resolved, That Mrs. J. A. Conine and Mrs. A. J. Peavey be appointed a committee to look after the import of the above resolution.

"Whereas, The proceedings of the annual meetings of the Federation of Clubs are of vital importance to the club women of the State, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the president's address and the reports of the officers be printed and distributed to all clubs, to be preserved for historical reference.

"Whereas, A national committee of 100 has been asked to promote the founding of the University of the United States at Washington, D. C., and to insure the legal establishment of the same, that must be accomplished by July 9, 1899, the one hundredth anniversary of the bequest, your committee recommends that the club women throughout the States interest and inform themselves regarding the movement."

The corresponding secretary of the State Federation, Mrs. C. C. Richardson, of Pueblo, was elected news-reporter for the ensuing year.

After this business had been transacted, Mrs. E. C. Stevens of Trinidad gave a twenty-minute paper on magazine literature, and Mrs. J. F. Coleman of Montrose read an interesting five-minute discussion of fiction as treated in the modern magazine. Mrs. C. H. Jacobson treated magazine art in not too serious a

light, and several pleasing discussions closed the morning program.

Music, short speeches and papers on "The Progress of Woman," filled the afternoon of Friday. In saying farewell to the officers (who hold over to October, 1898) the delegates expressed their pleasure at being in attendance and certainly the third annual meeting seemed to give a new impetus to club life in Colorado.

MRS. C. C. RICHARDSON,  
Corresponding secretary C. F. W. C.

#### WISCONSIN.

Wednesday morning, November 9th, opened bright and beautiful over the city of Oshkosh, and the parlors of Hotel Athearn presented a busy scene. At nine o'clock the scene of activity was transferred to the First Presbyterian Church, and soon after, Mrs. Charles S. Morris brought down her gavel and the first annual meeting of the W. S. F. W. C. was declared formally opened.

There was a large gathering, and the yellow badge of the Federation gleamed on the front of nearly every gown, combined with those of the individual clubs. Dr. Annette J. Shaw invoked the Divine blessing. The welcome of the six Oshkosh clubs, the hostesses of the occasion, was extended to the convention by Miss Magee, and each was appropriately voiced. In closing, the Federation was compared to a magnificent cathedral where each individual club must be an artist artisan, working in the construction of the building.

Mrs. Charles S. Morris, president of the Wisconsin Federation, responded with a quiet dignity which held the close, sympathetic attention of her audience. The formative period was touched upon, when the Federation began. She reviewed the work of committees in these lines of activity: those of the reciprocity bureau, a work with and for the clubs; the other two broader,—to investigate the needs of the State in education and library interests. The address was rich in practical and valuable suggestions. The clubs were urged to use their influence to form other clubs. She said, also, that training should begin at home, and the mothers must be better educated, their views of life enlarged, their knowledge of the needs of the hour increased. Another field was opened in the organizing of city federations, and it was urged that encouragement be given to the development of art and music. Mrs. Morris voiced the sentiment of most advanced club women in advocating the admission to the Federation of organizations composed of both men and women. The applause with which this suggestion was greeted is, I take it, evidence that Wisconsin will before very long join her sister States, Illinois and Indiana, in this advance.

The program for the five meetings was excellently planned and well carried out: the committees, of which Mrs. W. K. Galloway was chairman, are to be congratulated on their success. The business of the meetings was despatched with promptness and accuracy. The papers and reports were admirable. That from the educational committee, given by the chairman, Mrs. Graves, showed that in eleven cities the clubs have taken up special work for the public schools. The report contained practical suggestions for the future and ended with a program for departments on this subject covering one meeting a month for a club year.

Educational subjects were discussed during the whole of the first afternoon. Mrs. Allen read a paper on "Child-Study and its Relation to Education." Miss Tanner talked on "Art in our Public Schools," and Mrs. McCue told of the Madison Housekeepers' League, the object of which is to place cooking in the public schools and to raise the standard of domestic service, and create a more complete sympathy between the housekeeper and her assistants.

On Wednesday evening a reception was tendered the delegates and visiting guests of the convention by the Oshkosh clubs at the Hotel Athearn. Mrs. Henrotin arrived just in time to receive with the officers and presidents of the clubs.

Thursday morning the general subject considered was the reciprocity and library work, with reports from the chairmen of each, a talk on "Library Interests in Wisconsin," by Miss Stearns, secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, and "What Shall Children Read?" by Miss Scheriner of the Milwaukee Normal School. The aims of both of the above committees is broad, the first to bring about an exchange of papers among the federated clubs and also assist through its circulars in furnishing them with the best lecturers at prices within reach of even the smallest clubs. The library committee is pushing travelling library work, and before long will be able to furnish clubs in out-of-the-way places a full set of books with which to pursue almost any line of study.

The last afternoon meeting was one of the most valuable of all, when club methods and plans of work were compared in a symposium of the Literary Club, the Department Club, the Art Club, the Musical Club. A ten minutes' talk on each was given by a selected speaker to open the subject, followed by a general discussion.

The convention closed on Thursday evening, November 11. Mrs. W. H. Upham opened the program with a delightful paper on "The Club Woman as Mother." Mrs. John Vance Cheney of Chicago gave a scholarly address on "The Relation of the New Education in Music to Life"; and Mrs. Henrotin, the much-beloved president of the G. F. W. C., gave a fine address. At ten o'clock the gavel fell and the Wisconsin Federation adjourned without date, although the next meeting will be held at La Crosse.

The Club Woman was brought before the convention, and a number of subscriptions taken. It promises to become a popular magazine in Wisconsin.

#### THE OHIO FEDERATION.

The Third Annual convention of the Ohio Federation was held at Piqua, October 27, 28, 29, and was a success in every particular. A public reception was held at the Hotel Plaza, on Thursday evening, which proved a brilliant social affair, when many pleasant acquaintances were formed. Among the interesting matters brought before the convention was a resolution presented by the Holmes Club of Urbana, asking that a petition be presented the next Legislature, having the endorsement of the Ohio Federation, that a law be passed to the effect that when a criminal assault is committed and the crime clearly proven, the penalty shall be death. A great many endorsed the resolution, while others questioned the advisability of encouraging capital punishment. It was suggested that the resolution be held over until the next annual meeting, when it should be the first matter brought up for consideration. This was said to be objectionable from the fact that it would delay action with the Legislature for three years, owing to the present biennial sessions. Still the ladies were seriously opposed to acting hastily on so important a matter. It was finally decided that the Holmes Club would present the petition to the Legislature with the endorsement of the executive board.

There was an interesting discussion on the question as to whether a delegate could represent more than one club, and, if so, would she be entitled to more than one vote; and again, in case she is, how could it be managed. After discussion, the following by-law was adopted: "A delegate may report for more than one club, but shall have only one vote." It was decided



that at State Federations each club shall be allowed two delegates, the president of the club and one other member; but at the General Federation, at Denver next year, the State will be allowed five delegates.

Mrs. H. B. Morehead extended an invitation for the State Federation to meet next year at Cincinnati. Mrs. Joseph Denny extended an invitation from a thousand club women of Columbus to meet at the capital city which has entertained conventions so extensively.

Mrs. E. L. Buchwalter of Springfield, chairman of the library extension committee, read an interesting report of the work being done by the State library. A year ago arrangements were made to send out a collection of books to any reputable persons throughout the State. This is called a travelling library, and Mrs. Buchwalter reported that twenty clubs have taken advantage of these travelling libraries. Other organizations or individuals besides the clubs have also used these travelling libraries, and the sum total of libraries out at the time was thirty-nine, with thirteen ready to send. It was suggested that an effort be made to have the next Legislature make a specific appropriation for the State library, to be used for travelling libraries.

Miss Frances Battelle of Piqua, State corresponding secretary, reported the growth of the Federation during the past three years. At the first annual meeting at Mansfield, in 1895, the secretary reported a membership of ninety-six clubs. At the second meeting at Cleveland last year, twenty-one clubs had been added to the list, making the number one hundred and seventeen. Since last year fifty clubs have been added, so that there is now enrolled one hundred and sixty-seven clubs, making this one of the largest among State Federations.

Mrs. J. H. Canfield of Columbus, as chairman of the club extension committee, read a paper on the work of this department. Mrs. Canfield spoke of "clubable" women and said she used the word advisedly. "There are many definitions of the word clubable," said Mrs. Canfield. "With our brothers any man who is a 'good fellow' belongs to this class. With a woman a little more is required. To be a desirable club woman she must have three characteristics. First, she must be fond of reading and must wish for the companionship of others in intellectual pursuits. She must be good-natured, and she must have common sense, and the good taste to recognize the eternal fitness of things. In the proportion of these qualifications which she possesses will she approach the ideal club woman. Bereft entirely, or even in large part, of these characteristics, she should be shunned as utterly ineligible to the membership of any woman's club, no matter what her wealth or social standing may be."

Mrs. Canfield stated that since last February thirteen new clubs had been organized in Columbus, making seventeen in all which belong to the State Federation.

One of the brightest papers was by Miss Leila S. McKee, president of the Western (Oxford Female Seminary). The subject was, "The Up-to-Date Woman." She said, "Many people have felt that the up-to-date woman must have many attractions, and as a climax, last of all—she must be a man. In all the ages there has been only one truly up-to-date woman and she was Eve. In her the clock of our sex struck twelve. Ever since it has been striking small hours. The composite woman of the last decade is an up-to-date woman. She must have robust physical health, must be well read, a patriot, a citizen, a student of sociology and economics, not a drone, interested in municipal affairs, a worker both intellectually and in household cares." Miss McKee stated further that "the up-to-date woman must be a home-maker and home-lover, and that she will be, for woman will not voluntarily resign the sweetest thing in her

life. Kill the universal germ of worry and you will destroy three-fourths of all the evils of the world."

Mrs. Calvin S. Brice of Ohio was the guest of her sister, Mrs. Orr, wife of W. P. Orr, of the Governor's staff. Mrs. Orr delivered the address of welcome and Mrs. Brice read a paper on "The George Washington Memorial." She spoke of this as a subject of individual concern, vital importance and national welfare.

GEORGIA HOPLEY.

#### NEW JERSEY.

The third annual meeting of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs was held in the First Presbyterian church at Camden, October 28 and 29, by invitation of the six South Jersey clubs, the Haddonfield Fortnightly Club, the Merchantville Half Hour Club, Salem Woman's Club, Atlantic City Research Club, the Camden Woman's Club and the Riverton Porch Club. An informal reception was given to Miss Gaines, the State president; Mrs. Miles, State secretary; Mrs. Bickley, State treasurer, and other officers, by the South Jersey Clubs, at the clubhouse of the Camden Club, the previous evening.

Rev. Dr. W. Dayton Roberts, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, opened the meeting with prayer, and Mrs. C. K. Binder, president of the Woman's Club of Camden, welcomed the delegates, and Miss Cecilia Gaines, president of the New Jersey Federation, responded.

Mrs. E. C. Miles, the corresponding secretary, read her annual report, in which she said: "Of the seventy-five clubs, with a membership of about 2,500, which make up our united strength, each has furnished some fruitful idea or suggested some practical purpose, out of which there is sure to be the survival of the fittest, to be held aloft by the Federation as the ideal standard of the year. Three new clubs have come into the Federation during the past year—the Fortnightly Club of Rahway, the Open Hand of Jersey City and the Kalmia of Lambertville. Five more clubs are hanging about the open door of the Federation. The literary work of the clubs has considerably broadened, covering a fair range of subjects, embracing such as forestry, sociology, political science, civics, etc. Many of the club calendars show lectures on special subjects, literary and otherwise, while some indicate as part of the year's work musical afternoons and evenings with the great composers. One of the South Jersey clubs has sent out a travelling library among the life-saving stations of the Jersey coast. Free kindergartens have in several instances been established. The good and bad faults of public schools have received considerable attention. The Englewood Club has been doing noble work in devising plans whereby the preservation of the Palisades may be insured."

The afternoon session was given over to the discussion of educational affairs. Among the papers read was one written by Miss Adaline W. Sterling, a member of the board of education at Englewood. Miss Sterling's paper referred in sarcastic language to the defeat of the woman's suffrage constitutional amendment at the recent special election, and contained many helpful suggestions.

Mrs. Florence Howe Hall, one of the most active workers in the world of women's clubs, and vice-president of the State Federation, spoke on "School Suffrage for Women." Other addresses were delivered by Miss Boylan, State chairman of correspondence, on "General Federation;" by Miss Gaines, on "Educational Value of Federation;" Miss Emma Ballou, on "The Needs of Our Schools;" Miss Esther Burdick, on "Have the Best Books for School Children," and by Miss Mary R. Wilson and others. Miss Celia Gardner read a poem, "A Woman's Reason."

That evening the principal feature was an able address on "The Poetry of Browning," by Miss Mary Taylor Blauvelt.

The morning of October 29 was given up to reports and to discussing the question "How to Save the Palisades." Mrs. E. B. Horton, in reporting for the library department, told of the preparations the committee had made for the establishment of travelling libraries in the State which shall reach sections which cannot have the advantages of the libraries of the cities. Miss Mary McKeen, for the kindergarten department, asked for the co-operation of the clubs, in order that lost time might be made up and in order that as soon as the need is really felt to introduce the kindergarten system into the public schools.

Mrs. C. W. Butler, in beginning her report on the Town Improvement and Health Protective Associations of New Jersey, said: "I cannot speak of this work as a 'new departure for women,' when we have before us the statement that in New York nearly two hundred years ago a woman had sole charge of the street cleaning. According to a record dated June, 1711, the city government 'continues the widow of Andreas Donn, deceased, in the office of scavenger of Broad street for one year at a salary of eleven pounds sterling.' I venture to say her work gave satisfaction."

After Mrs. Butler had finished, Miss Florence May of Newark, told of the work being done by the Women's Municipal Association of Newark, which it was announced will probably soon join the Federation. Mrs. John Gifford of Princeton read a circular letter giving a report of the Committee on "Forestry and the Protection of the Palisades." A long discussion followed, which resulted in the appointment of a committee to take some action on the question.

The discussion of educational topics continued the afternoon session. One of the most interesting papers was that by Miss Cecilia Gaines, president of the State Federation, who spoke on the "Educational Value of the Federation." After telling of the part taken by woman and woman's clubs in this and other States in years past, Miss Gaines went on to say:

"Women in all times have set the standard by which society has been governed. They are the preservers of the ideals of humanity. Let us see to it that our standards are the highest and our ideals held sacred. When we have reached that true aim of all culture, the bringing of life's gifts at their real worth, the valuing of the spiritual above the material, this 'plain living and high thinking,' we may hope that characters will be built that may be bulwarks for the nation's honor; statesmen that are clean-minded; citizens that are loyal; masters that are merciful; and public servants that are honest. When we think of the hundreds of thousands of women all over the land working in the most unselfish, disinterested way for the common good, we can but feel that the woman's club is a vital element in the welfare of our national life."

Miss Emma Ballou discussed "What Women Can Do for the Public Schools" and "The Needs of Our Schools." A paper by Miss Esther Burdick of Jersey City on "How to Provide the Best Books for School Children," and a discussion followed.

On the formal ballot for directors, Mrs. David Miller of Elizabeth, Mrs. Richard Guade of Rutherford, and Mrs. William Hamlin of Haddonfield were elected. Miss Ada Davenport Fuller of Jersey City was elected to fill the office of corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Clarence Willard Butler of Montclair was elected recording secretary.

The last session was given to an illustrated lecture on "America's Song Makers" and an address on "Historic New Jersey." A pleasant feature was the closing of one of the evening meetings with singing the Federation Ode, of which Miss Marion C. Smith is the author, sung as a chorus to the tune "America." The words follow:

Daughters of Freedom's Land,  
Ready with heart and hand,  
Strong for the right!  
Now raise your voices high,  
In one clear song reply,  
To Life's appealing cry,  
For Love and Light!

Why stand we here to-day?  
Why, but to make the way  
For Hope's glad feet?  
Bidding the world aspire  
To purer aims and higher,  
That home's own altar fire  
Burn bright and sweet.

Daughters of Freedom's Land,  
Holding Truth's torch ye stand,  
Crowned with God's grace!  
That this great age may see  
How fair its destiny,  
And they who come may be  
A nobler race!

#### NORTH DAKOTA.

The women of North Dakota had already felt the need of becoming a part of the great band throughout our country who compose the General Federation, and through the help of one from our sister State, Minnesota, a State Federation was formed in July last. It is to Mrs. Edith M. Conant of Wells, Minnesota, one of the vice-presidents of the Minnesota State Federation, that we, as club women, owe very much. Our first annual meeting was held October 21 and 22 at Fargo, and the eleven clubs composing the Federation were well represented. We feel that the two days spent there were very pleasant ones—in more ways than one—and we hope none of our Eastern friends will think of us as trudging through a Dakota blizzard. Our Indian summer was as perfect as if we were living on the Atlantic coast, and our meeting room, the Unitarian church, was beautiful with palms and flowers. The Musical Club of Fargo gave us music, vocal and instrumental, of a high order, and we hope that through their influence a prominent feature of our Federation work will be the cultivation of music. No finer plea for State Federation has ever been given than that contained in the address of welcome given by Mrs. C. F. Amidon of Fargo. After a paper by Miss Marie B. Senn, vice-president for North Dakota of the National Household Economic Association on Household Economics, the ladies were invited, by Miss Senn, to drive to the State Agricultural College, where she not only showed her ability to write upon household matters but to prepare and serve a dainty repast.

Instructive papers on "Education," by Mrs. E. S. Kilbourne of the Woman's Club, Lisbon; "The Spirit of Federation Work," by Mrs. Douglas of Moorhead, Minn.; "Swedish Movement," by Miss Susan Sears of Fargo College, and an interesting lecture by Mrs. Jennette Knox of the Book and Thimble Club, Wahpeton, were given. Mrs. Knox gave us a very helpful talk on parliamentary drill. Friday evening our session closed with a reception. Our clubs start the new year with a determination to make club privileges and club responsibilities a possibility for every woman in our State.

JEANIE S. TULLER, Fargo, N. D.,

President, N. D. F. W. C.



## MINNESOTA.

The third annual meeting of the Minnesota Federation was held in St. Paul, October 27, 28, 29, and was hospitably entertained by the women's clubs of that city. There are now eighteen clubs enrolled in the Minnesota Federation, having a membership of nearly three thousand. The admirable fitness of Miss Margaret J. Evans as a presiding officer was manifested in her ability to keep the wheels of the Federation machine in noiseless motion; and to her tact, graciousness, promptness, and thorough knowledge of parliamentary rules was greatly due the success which characterized the meeting. The aim of this Federation is to promote the best interests of education, municipal affairs, sanitation, social and economic problems, art and musical culture; and the mental and moral improvement of its members.

One of the objects is to establish club rooms for the promotion of intercourse between the women of the city and the country towns, and to be used as headquarters by the women of the country coming to the city. The standing committee on "Town and Country Clubs" looks after this work as well as other interests, such as libraries, town and village improvement and education.

The value of such clubs is shown in the report given of one town, which is surrounded by an agricultural community, where in its club rooms 634 visitors registered in one month. The work of the standing committees, to each of which three members are assigned, is on reciprocity, education; town and country clubs; town and village improvement; art interchange, libraries; household economics; and mothers' clubs. The broad field of woman's work was brought out in papers and reports from different clubs who have been studying history, poetry, drama, literature, art, travel, music, sociology, parliamentary law, household economics, finance, and child-nature in mothers' clubs. The practical application of all these to our every-day life lay in the suggestions of papers on "Reciprocity," "Between Club and Home," "Municipal and Town House Cleaning," "Housekeeping and Home-Making as a Science and as an Art," "Art in Every-Day Life," "Personal Responsibility," and "Women's Interest in Current Questions." The two-minute reports from the different clubs were models of conciseness, and diffuseness was conspicuous by its absence. The power to express much in few words shows the training and benefit women have received in their club work. A valuable lesson lay in the spirit of willingness manifested to receive help from others, as well as the altruistic one of helping others. The keynote of the convention was "helping and being helped."

The annual address of the president was replete with thought and suggestion. She commended the work of the committee on town and village improvement, and advised the committee to co-operate with municipal government to secure for all our towns the beauty and cleanliness of which they are capable. She urged for a campaign of education to influence the legislature to appropriate funds for circulating libraries for every town in Minnesota that is now without a library. She made a strong plea for altruistic work in our public schools on lines laid down by the General Federation. She emphasized the fact that the sanitary condition of our public schools, the aesthetic, patriotic and the moral aspects of education belonged to woman's sphere of work.

The practical results of the work of the Federation were shown in the interest that was taken in the public schools and in the formation of libraries of good reading throughout the State.

MRS. JAMES D. RAY,

Duluth, Minnesota.

## GEORGIA.

The Georgia State Federation assembled at Rome, Nov. 2, 3 and 4, bringing out a large number of brilliant and representative women. They represented twenty-four federated clubs and voiced the sentiments of the largest organized body of women in Georgia. The reports read at the first session of the convention presented a phenomenal history of the first year of existence, and reflected unbounded credit upon the women leaders of the club movement in Georgia.

The opening prayer was impressively said by Mrs. A. O. Harper. At its conclusion Mrs. C. S. Sparks of Rome arose, and in behalf of the Woman's Club of Rome delivered a cordial and inspiring address of welcome.

As Mrs. Lowe, president of the Georgia Federation, arose to respond, she was received with enthusiastic applause. She gracefully acknowledged the welcoming remarks of Mrs. Sparks, and introduced her annual address, one of the strongest and brightest ever made by a Southern woman, by reference to the great success made by the Federation in its first year. She expressed her appreciation of the co-operation she had received from every federated club in the State, and especially to the executive board of the organization. She referred to the gratifying recognition given the Federation in the development of its leading movements, and made a strong point when she said: "The greatest injustice which has characterized the world in dealing with dependent women is due to the lack of organization. Lecky tells us that the fact that female laborers are much less organized than male and therefore less capable of making their bargains is one of the most serious causes of the difference in wages between men and women. Of what great help, then, might this Federation be to the masses of struggling dependent women and children by giving to them an example of the real worth of organization in their work. Gradually we may hope to draw them within the influence of our clubs and teach them through their own organizations, as 'working girls' clubs, 'social settlements,' 'mothers' meetings of kindergarten children,' etc., the social and economic value of organized effort."

At some future time we hope to print Mrs. Lowe's address in full, lack of space preventing it in this number. Routine business and reports filled the rest of the morning.

The afternoon session was one upon which the greatest interest centred, since the program was made up of reports from the educational committee of the State Federation. This committee, in undertaking the development of the educational system of Georgia, has embodied in its work the principle of the State Federation, and the work accomplished proves the organization one of the powers of Georgia's development.

The leading address was made by Mrs. Robert Emory Park of Macon, chairman of the educational committee. It was a brilliant effort and worthy to rank with any address ever made on the subject of education by man or woman. Interesting and brightly expressed reports were read, among them those of Mrs. Nellie Peters Black, on "Kindergartens;" Mrs. Julia Flisch, "The Country School;" Mrs. Charles A. Read, "City School Systems;" Mrs. Walter B. Hill, "The University;" Mrs. Enoch Calloway, "Our Private Schools."

That evening Miss L. G. Crozier of Tennessee spoke on "Co-operation," Mrs. George B. Eager, president of the Alabama Federation, brought greetings from the sister State. The final address was by Mrs. Ellen M. Henrotin, the beloved president of the G. F. W. C., on the subject of "Co-ordination."

Thursday morning was given up to reports of various committees and the election of officers. Thursday afternoon the general subject was "Libraries," the sub-divisions being, 1. Report of Library Committee, Mrs. Eugene Heard, chairman;

2. Relation of the Library to the Educational Work of Georgia, Mrs. W. H. Felton; 3. Travelling Libraries, a New Aid to Education, general discussion, led by Mrs. John Printup.

The meetings were held in the rooms of the Superior Court, and there were several noteworthy social features. One of these was a drive about the town and a visit to the Hospital and Free Kindergarten, which are under the management of the Rome Woman's Club; another was the reception by Mrs. J. Lindsay Johnson, president of the Rome Club, and a third was the fine musicale which closed the convention Thursday evening.

#### ILLINOIS.

With the re-election of Mrs. Alice Bradford Wiles as president, the election of Mrs. Anna L. Parker of Quincy as vice-president-at-large and the selection of Chicago as meeting place for next year, the third convention of the Illinois Federation of Woman's Clubs, the program of which was printed at length in the November Club Woman, closed. One result of the convention was the success of the women's clubs in Jacksonville in securing a curfew ordinance. The city council passed this ordinance at the earnest request of the women's clubs of that city. The children of Jacksonville under the age of 16 will not be allowed on the streets after 8 o'clock during the winter months and after 9 o'clock in the summer months. A resolution sympathizing with the women and children of Cuba was ruled out of order on the ground that the Federation would not handle any matters of political significance.

The fact that the conservatives brought about the suppression of the proposed resolution condemning Governor Tanner for discharging Mrs. Florence Kelley of Chicago as State factory inspector is said to indicate that the Federation will in future refrain from advocating any woman for political position of any kind. The victory of the conservatives will have a tremendous bearing on the future of women's activities in Illinois. All through the convention it was noted that the women were rapidly formulating lines of work to which they will devote themselves in the future.

The opening address of Mrs. Wiles showed the trend of feeling among the delegates. She made culture, the education of children, and philanthropy the main objects of women's efforts. The convention followed these lines and provided special committees for literature, art, science and philanthropy, with especial reference to the State care of dependent children and the State regulation of child labor.

The following is the list of officers for the coming year: President, Mrs. Alice Bradford Wiles, Chicago; vice-president-at-large, Mrs. Anna Parker, Quincy; (there are also twenty-four vice-presidents by districts); recording secretary, Mrs. Fred Leroy Streater; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Virginia B. Bash, Peoria; treasurer, Miss Sarah M. Fairbank, Jacksonville.

#### PENNSYLVANIA.

Pennsylvania is conservative; it has never in its history been coerced into taking up new ideas with undue haste, or without careful consideration; but when the Keystone State is once convinced of the wisdom and necessity of such new ideas, they receive encouragement and aid to rapid growth. Might it not seem as though the seal of the Commonwealth had stamped the State Federation of Pennsylvania women with approval, since the second meeting of that organization took place in the capital city, with a welcome and unbounded hospitality which was gracefully extended and received with deep appreciation? If there were any delegates from the women's clubs of Pennsylvania present in Harrisburg during the closing week of October who were still undecided as to the wisdom

and necessity of federated action, they undoubtedly went home the wiser and better and broader; and as for our wise Solons, who spend their legislative days in devising impossible charters and in voting away public money, had they only been in session, they might have learned from their sisters, cousins and aunts a valuable lesson in parliamentary practice and expeditious transaction of business.

The opening meeting was held on the evening of October 26, and in the absence of Governor Hastings, the Hon. John B. McPherson read a cordial and witty speech of welcome, saying, among other pleasant things: "For twenty years or more there have been signs of the coming woman, visible even to the wayfaring man; and now that she may be said indubitably to have arrived, and arrived in considerable body, it coincides with our sense of fitness to find her footsteps turned toward the convention city of the State. Once here, we trust ourselves for the rest, and look upon your choice of a meeting place this year as the first indulgence in a harmless but alluring habit." And after alluding to the many important questions rising from the new activities in which women are everywhere engaged, and making graceful acknowledgment of the social and intellectual improvement which society is receiving at their hands, he concluded by saying: "I welcome you most cordially; on behalf of the city, whose hospitality is more than repaid by your gracious presence; on behalf of the State, in so many of whose communities you are already doing the beneficent work of elevating and refining the common life; and, for my sex, on behalf of those who some time were by inheritance your oppressors, but now perceive their misdoing and are ready to make amends for the deplorable past."

In response, Mrs. Horace Brock of Lebanon, the president of the Federation, thanked the citizens of Harrisburg in a charming and informal speech, spoke of the development of club life and feeling in the State, and presented a logical view of woman's place in the world.

The meeting organized for business the next morning, and Mrs. Brock gave her report for the year, from which the following brief extracts are taken: "In my journeys over the State I have been very deeply impressed with the great variety of conditions under which we work—but everywhere I found earnest, clever women doing good work and anxious to be more of a power for good in their community."

Mrs. Brock also announced that she had found that the attention and interest of women all over Pennsylvania had so drifted to civics, that the Executive Board had deemed it advisable to stimulate and direct that movement, by establishing a committee on civics; and that Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, president of the Civic Club of Philadelphia, had consented to serve as chairman. In conclusion, Mrs. Brock said: "I began my report with the announcement that our last year had been a good one; I would close with the announcement that our next year promises to be a better one. Only let us continue to work as we have done, shoulder to shoulder, and he or she would indeed be a bad prophet who would predict what great and good things the Federation of Pennsylvania women may not accomplish."

The reports of the other officers were then read and approved; the secretary reporting now in the Federation 59 clubs, representing 7617 women, a gain of 23 clubs over last year.

On Wednesday afternoon the hall was filled to overflowing with delegates and interested outsiders. The papers delivered were on "Reciprocity," by Mrs. S. A. Thurlow of Pottsville; "Voice Culture," by Miss F. B. Rice of Chester, and "The Literary Club as a Factor in Woman's Life," prepared by three members of the Bradford Literary Club; the meeting closing with a conference on club problems.



On Wednesday evening was held the most inspiring meeting of the series from which emanated influences which are going to be felt in many directions throughout the State. The first of the brilliant papers was a talk on "Forestry," given by Miss Myra Lloyd Dock of Harrisburg. Eloquent and convincing, Miss Dock in clear and forcible language and spirited delivery, spoke of the glorious forests of Pennsylvania, which in colonial days were the wonder and admiration of travellers and botanists from the old world.

"Pennsylvania," she said, "was the great meeting place of trees and plants; from north and south, east and west, they came together in luxuriant majesty and clothed our mountains and valleys." It was at once the farthest north, the farthest south, the farthest east, the farthest west, of hundreds of species and varieties, and her ringing appeal for forest laws and forest preservation gave tone and direction to what will prove the great united effort and action this year of the State Federation of Pennsylvania. Miss Dock was followed by Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, who spoke on "Women in the Municipality," and by Mrs. Joseph P. Mumford, on "Home in the Schools."

Both were masterly and convincing arguments for woman's place and woman's work in civic reform and on school boards. Mrs. Stevenson drew attention to the fact that the new man had invaded woman's province with his labor saving machinery; and the conclusion was drawn from other data, that just in proportion as women are fitted to participate in public affairs, opportunity is extended to them. Mrs. Mumford, than whom in educational matters there is no higher authority, spoke of many phases of her subject, including the best means of enforcing the compulsory education act; and after concluding her paper, she made a graceful allusion to the oldest anniversary of our commonwealth, by saying: "We have heard something to-night of Penn's woods, and something of Penn's city; let me remind you that we celebrate to-day the landing of the good ship "Welcome"; and I commend to you all a careful perusal of William Penn's ideas on education; they are well worth your study."

It would be impossible in the space permitted to do more than briefly mention certain points in the many fine papers, encouraging reports, and stimulating discussions, which are likely to influence and determine the character of the work which will be done this year by the Federated clubs. Of great interest were the papers prepared by Mrs. H. H. Birney on the National Congress of Mothers; by Miss Mary S. Garrett on her methods of instructing deaf children to speak before they reach school age; by Miss Caroline Peterson of Honesdale, on the work accomplished by the Village Improvement Society of which she is president; and by Miss Sperry, the librarian of the Carnegie library, Braddock. The two things which promise most for the future, noticeable in the general trend of sentiment, were the active and practical interest shown in civics and forestry. Recognition of the necessity of re-foresting, and a united effort for forest preservation, was duly given in a resolution offered by Mrs. Longstreth, to this effect:—

"Resolved, That in consideration of the importance of the preservation and cultivation of the forests of our State, both as a means of maintaining an adequate supply of water and of securing a proper distribution of rainfall, thereby increasing the State's productiveness and consequent wealth, the State Federation, through its clubs and individual members, should use every effort to arouse interest in our forest conditions and resources, with a view to intelligent understanding of the value of forest preserves, and the best means of protection and cultivation."

In the matter of civics and higher citizenship, it was easily seen that the tide of enthusiasm had set, and a desire to continue or to begin earnest work in such fields was manifested by

every delegate present. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Stevenson, who has had great experience and remarkable success in conducting the affairs of the Civic Club of Philadelphia, the State will be thoroughly organized, and every federated club will be asked to do some practical work in educational, municipal, or sanitary improvement.

In writing even a brief notice of this meeting, it would seem as if the progress of the work were only half described if special allusion were not made to the group of noble women who guided its deliberations and determined its policy; and to whom the Federation and all other great works in which women are enlisted in this State, owe their vital, propelling force, if not their whole existence.

To Mrs. Horace Brock, Mrs. Cornelius Stevenson, Mrs. Joseph P. Mumford and Mrs. Edward Longstreth, Pennsylvania owes much; and if the aim of the Federation to become the greatest educational force in the State is realized, it will be largely due to the eloquence, the strong common sense, the unflinching wisdom, the unerring tact, and the infinite patience which they have freely given in the common cause.

The officers elected for the present year are: President, Mrs. Horace Brock, Lebanon; vice-presidents, Mrs. Richard Halde- man, Harrisburg; Mrs. Ellis L. Campbell, Wayne; Miss Kate McKnight, Pittsburg; treasurer, Mrs. Martha Cameron House, Pittsburg; secretary, Miss Jessie Little, Pottsville; directors, Mrs. Edward Biddle, Jr., Carlisle; Mrs. William C. Walls, Lewisburg; Mrs. C. C. Huff, Pittsburg; Mrs. Isaac L. Miller, Media. Directors who held over: Mrs. G. M. Phillips, West Chester; Mrs. R. G. Stocker, Philadelphia; Mrs. A. F. Grumbine, Titusville; Miss Caroline McBurney, Bradford.

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L'Echo de la Semaine, 175 Tremont Street, Boston.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

The first meeting of the Massachusetts Federation for the season will be held in Worcester December 8th, and will be a one-day's session. By holding meetings in different parts of the State four times a year this Federation believe the best results can be obtained. That these meetings are not of too frequent occurrence is proved by the fact that for the past two years, wherever they are held, it has been found necessary to make admission by tickets imperative, and to issue these tickets only to members of federated clubs, with the exception of a few invited guests. Otherwise, no building could be found large enough to contain the audiences that gather at a Federation meeting.

The program at Worcester is to be on Education, and will include an address of welcome by Mrs. Abbie L. Sumner, president of the Worcester Woman's Club, which is hostess for the day. The State president, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, having gone to Europe for the winter, the first vice-president, Miss O. M. E. Rowe, will respond. Mrs. Electa N. L. Walton, as chairman of the committee, will say a few words on the general topic of the day, and will be followed by Mrs. Ellen M. Morse of the Marlboro Tuesday Club on "What Women's Clubs can Do for the Schools." A discussion will follow, led by Rev. Austin S. Garver, D. D., of Worcester. Miss Lucy Wheelock of Boston, president of the National Kindergarten Association, will give a paper on "Free Kindergartens"; Miss Laliah Pingree of Boston will give one on "Day-Nurseries."

The afternoon session will be: "Education of Motherhood," Dr. G. Stanley Hall, of Worcester; "Discussion," opened by Prof. E. Harlow Russell of Worcester; "School Hygiene," Mrs. Emma E. Foster of Worcester.

The committee (consisting of Mrs. Walton, chairman; Mrs. May Alden Ward, Mrs. Jennie A. Lincoln, Mrs. Abbie L. Sumner and Miss Helen M. Winslow), found such an abundance of material in making up the day's program that they decided to ask for another meeting in the interests of education. Their request was granted and the "extra" meeting will be held January 22, in historic old Faneuil Hall, Boston, when the speakers are to be Prof. E. Charlton Black of Cambridge on "What Should Children Read?" and one or two other noted educators whose names are not yet announced, to speak on "Industrial Education." The meeting falls on a Saturday afternoon and the teachers of Boston will be invited guests.

To people having occasion to travel between New York and Boston, especially women without escort, the Norwich Line offers many advantages. The boats are commodious, comfortable, and very homelike. The state-rooms off the ladies' cabin are particularly desirable for ladies travelling alone. The cabin itself is delightful, the berths daintily complete in their appointments, and almost as pleasant as the state-rooms. Passengers are given every attention. The dining-room is very pleasant, being on the upper deck, light, airy, and free from the stuffiness and down-cellar effects of the old lines. With good service, an excellent menu, and no feeling while taking lunch leisurely that perhaps some are kept waiting for the dining-room to be cleared, that they may retire for the night, one feels safe and at home; and the Norwich is justly a favorite line. A new train of up-to-date vestibule cars has been put on, which, with gas-light and everything fresh and bright, makes the rail portion of the journey endurable. As this line avoids the stormy and rough element liable to be encountered off Point Judith (being entirely a Sound line until the railroad connection is made), it is especially desirable in bad weather.

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## VARIA.

Among the multitude of lecturers and essayists heard nowadays before women's clubs none are more popular than Miss Agnes Repplier. "Varia" is a collection of her published essays, two or three of which had appeared previously in the leading magazines. Club women who attended the Louisville Biennial will always remember her evening lecture there, a brilliant essay that loses nothing by the reading in the printed volume of the Louisville proceedings, issued by the G. F. W. C. Suffice it to say that the new volume "Varia" is distinguished by the same incisive sarcasm, delicate wit and evidences of thorough culture which made Miss Repplier so wonderfully entertaining on the subject of "Women in Finance." It has been said that there are but few women in the world who can write a really brilliant essay. Whether this be true or not, Miss Repplier stands at the head of those who can, and "Varia" is a living proof. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

## "HOW ARE THE MIGHTY FALLEN."

At the Boston Food Fair in October there was a man exhibiting a combination of mop, pail and wringer, the virtues of which he proclaimed both in and out of season, after the manner of his kind. "I came from Vermont," he stated to the editor of The Club Woman in a burst of confidence, "and I must say I never knew a lady in that good old state to get down on her knees to scrub a floor. But when I first came to Boston, a few years ago, I was surprised I can tell you. For when I got off the train and went into the Union station about eleven o'clock at night, what did I see but five or six ladies down on those tobacco-stained, dirty floors—scrubbing!"

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## SOME BOOKS FOR WOMEN.

**I**N "Pictures of Russian History and Russian Literature," by Prince Serge Wolkonsky, (Boston: Lamson, Wolfe & Co.), we have a series of eight lectures, given during the winter of 1896-97, at the Lowell Institute, and also at several of our leading universities. It is a brief resume of Russian history, and a more extended survey of Russian literature. In both the writer is an optimistic and even an enthusiastic Russian. His strong plea for appreciation is not necessary in this country, since we are, with perhaps one exception, probably the most intensely pro-Russian people in the world. It is a recognition on his part that literature is almost the only subject on which a Russian can speak, either to his own people or to foreigners. His skill in avoiding the danger line is often marvellous, for instance his delineation of Dostoyevsky's influence among Russians of all classes, notwithstanding the unfortunate circumstance of his banishment to Siberia.

His story of Russian history is clear and vivid. In the main it is impartial. He does not seek to disguise the fact that his nation has no history until very recent times. The dreary monotony of its savage and barbarous ages is speedily passed over.

The last four lectures treat of the period since the middle of the eighteenth century, and more especially the sudden outburst of national life and feeling in the nineteenth century. From the time of Poushkin to the present day the significance of each of the great writers is thoroughly analyzed. At the same time the current of national feeling is sufficiently indicated.

The most interesting and the most valuable part of the book is the account of the "sixties," wherein he describes the emancipation of the serfs and the moral significance of that reform. The relative difficulties of Russian and American emancipation are cleverly sketched, much to the advantage of the former.

The last chapter discusses quite fully the three great novelists of the emancipation period, and characterizes them as to their influence on the reforms of the period. Tourgenief he calls the thinker overweighed by the artist; Dostoyevsky, the artist overweighed by the thinker; and Tolstoi, the artist and the thinker in rivalry.

Altogether the book is a valuable contribution to our rapidly growing library of books on Russia as seen by the Russians, and a necessary counterpart to the large amount of opinion from an antagonistic standpoint, chiefly written by foreigners.

The country-bred woman, and man, too, will find a delightfully entertaining book in "The District School as it Was," by "one who went to it." The editor, Clifton Johnson, has already established a reputation as the preserver of old New England customs and superstitions, and in putting out in such new and attractive form this book of Warren E. Burton's, he is giving the present generation a lively picture of the schools of their fathers and grandfathers, while to those of the elder generation this work is a pleasing reminiscence of their own youthful days. The descriptions are unusually simple and clear, and at the same time contain a humor that makes them good reading, aside from any historic attention. The hope of the author as expressed in the preface to the original edition is certainly realized, "that it will ever be of historical use to rising generations, educated under better auspices, as exhibiting a true and graphic picture of the district school as it was." Not the least attractive thing about the book are the quaint pictures and the design on the fly-leaf. (Boston: Lee & Shepard.)

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ONE may well envy the delightful task Mr. Abram English Brown has set himself to perform in his endeavors to bring to light some of the obscure movements of the early patriots. His searches take him along old roads, beneath old roof trees, and then "Beside Old Hearthstones," which is the happy title of his latest book, a work so replete with information of that old spirit of the times when men's souls were tried as by fire, and women were as brave as their husbands and brothers and made as great sacrifices. Mr. Brown has the true instinct of a genuine antiquarian, but with none of his dry-as-dustiness. He scents rare things unerringly; he unearths old letters full of delightful and important information and as with a divining rod he discovers ancient household utensils, articles of furniture, bits of rare carving, pieces of delicate china, and finds a delightful story connected with each. His book is charming with the aroma of the sweet lavender days; it is interesting with the story of brave men and devoted women; it is valuable with its wealth of information not hitherto accessible or known. The book is especially valuable as a supplement to club studies of Colonial history. (Boston: Lee & Shepard.)

Probably the best account of the early history of "New Plymouth" is John A. Goodwin's "The Pilgrim Republic," which contains not only the life of the young colony in detail, but gives the rise of the New England settlements, the history of Congregationalism and the creeds of the period. Mr. Goodwin begins by showing the difference between the Pilgrims and the Puritans—a confusion too often made—and explains

how the Separatists differed from both. He gives a complete outline of the life of the Pilgrims in England, their experiences at Scrooby, why they went to Holland and how they fared there, and how they decided to come to Massachusetts. His description of the life of the Pilgrims in New Plymouth are the fullest and most satisfactory yet given. Mr. Goodwin was a brother of Mrs. Jane W. Austin, whose "Standish of Standish" and other Plymouth romances are so widely read and enjoyed; and his literary style is as delightful as hers. Being descendants of old Plymouth families themselves, both were conversant with facts, and while one chose fiction as her medium, the other wrote what he called a "Historical Review," but which other critical judges characterize as the most complete outline-history of the Pilgrims ever written. It is a book which all women should read and should place in the hands of young people. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"College Training For Women" is a pregnant subject, and many earnest thinkers of both sexes are giving it serious thought. Kate Holladay Claghorn, however, has embodied in her book bearing the above title, some of the most practical ideas that have yet been put into print. Dr. Claghorn is a graduate, and a woman of broad, catholic mind, broad enough, in fact, to see not only the advantages of the present system of college training for women, but its demerits. More than this, she perceives clearly wherein so many college-bred girls fail to make the most of the higher education after they get it; and in clear, trenchant language she gives excellent, practical advice to girls both in and graduated from colleges. It is a book which ought to be read by every young woman, whether college-trained or not. (Boston and New York: T. Y. Crowell & Co.)

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"Ballads of Lost Haven" is the title of Bliss Carman's latest production of verse, a modest volume in dainty dress, fit for the pocket when a ramble by the seashore is to be taken, and to be read when the music of the waters sings in one's soul. We like Carman best in his graver moods, when he finds deep truths and sets them forth with true poetic fervor. In these songs of the sea, fifteen in all, we have the smell of the ocean's foam, the murmur of the waves upon the shingle, the thunders of the breakers, and the roar and boom of the surging, angry waters. The sea is before us as we read and we dream of it and re-live the halcyon days when beside it "life was more than fashion." There are delicate word touches of the sea; its varied moods are truthfully interpreted; its power to charm, to allure, to enthrall is faithfully portrayed in beautiful verse. Dwellers by the shore will find the pictures akin to those they have looked upon and loved; inlanders will from this book of the sea have their imaginations set aglow and their longing for "old ocean's gray and melancholy waste" intensified and vivified. (Boston: Lamson, Wolfe & Co.)

Lovers of the older New England life will most enjoy Sam Walter Foss's recently published "Dreams in Homespun," which is a collection of poems mostly in the Yankee dialect, and which rank equally with those of Whitcomb-Riley in earnestness and philosophic humor. Few writers who attempt the New England country dialect are successful with it, and in contrast to these Mr. Foss is a past master in Yankee dialect. Not all the poems in "Dreams in Homespun" are in dialect,

but we must confess to liking the other better. His finest art lies in treating common, every-day themes poetically. He invests with a halo of homespun beauty the scenes and incidents in the lives of average men. The humorous element is seldom long lacking from Mr. Foss's verse, and there is usually a trace of the philosophic wisdom which is the peculiar gift of the old-fashioned New England character. Mr. Foss is a university man himself, but he has not lost his native characteristics in the process. (Boston: Lee & Shepard.)

Another lecturer among the women's clubs—one who has delighted many Eastern audiences, at least—is Mrs. Grace Le Baron Upham, whose talks on "Juvenile Literature" are not only delightful in themselves, but have the merit of being out of the beaten track. Her success as a writer of children's books has been well demonstrated in her "Hazelwood Stories," "Queer Janet," is the title of the last of these charming stories, and is a book that can be cheerfully recommended to mothers who are anxiously seeking an answer to the question "What shall our children read?" Queer Janet is certainly an ideal character, but by no means an unreal one, and her beautifully unselfish life is the rare lesson of a little child who lives up to the Golden Rule. "Queer Janet" can be read by boys as well as girls with equal pleasure. There is not a page or a line in any of Mrs. Upham's writings which may not be read by the children, for whom they are chiefly written, with profit and delight. "Queer Janet," by Grace Le Baron. Boston: Lee & Shepard.)

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